

WARREN
MAGAZINE



SPIRIT
#5

DEC. 1974

THE SPIRIT

By
Will
EISNER

59296-5
PDC

\$1.00

**THE SPIRIT
BRAVES HOT
DESERT WASTES
IN SEARCH
OF A MISSING
TREASURE!**

**EIGHT
CLASSIC TALES
FEATURING
THE WORLD'S
GREATEST
CRIME FIGHTER!**



**THE SPIRIT
NOW DEPUTY**



**THE
RETURN**



**THE
HUNTED**



ICE



**THE
SPIRIT**

EIGHT BIG STORIES IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE

**HAMID
JEBRU**



**THE
PREDICTION**



**DEATH, TAXES
& THE SPIRIT**



**THE DEADLY
COMIC BOOK**





OUR COVER
THE SPIRIT stalks into an arid desert, pursuing a dead man's treasure . . . and hunting the villainous Hamid Jebbru. Ken Kelly and Will Eisner team on our cover.

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SPIRIT

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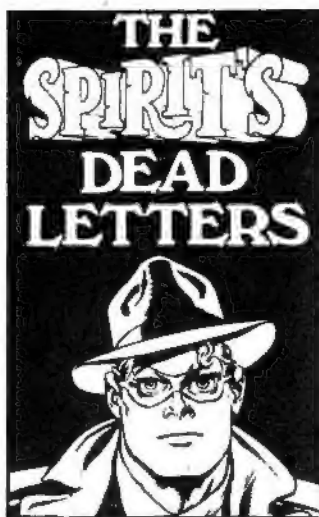
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"Don't stop now! Give us Plasticman and Flash Gordon!"

In his HISTORY OF COMICS, Jim Steranko wrote: "...The sexiest females ever to slink across a comic page were Eisner's women. Other artists have drawn them more voluptuously, but never with more character."

After seeing the first three issues of Warren's SPIRIT magazine, I can see that this was true.

But does anyone recall Torchy, the first and last cheese-cake comic book, by Bill Ward and Gil Fox? It was published during World War II.

If you could only resurrect Torchy as a companion magazine to THE SPIRIT...

K. KASSER
Vancouver, Canada

Will Eisner, how did you do it? You could have made THE SPIRIT a slouch-hatted, night-cloaked terror like *The Shadow*, or a true ghost like *The Spectre*. He could even have been a Sam Spade-type gumshoe or a gallant adventurer like *The Saint*. But instead, THE SPIRIT is a monument to the one thing so often lacking in the flamboyant field of comics... originality!

Variety, too, is one of the great factors in the success of the strip. Who else but Eisner would dare spoof Li'l Abner and Orson Welles? His parodies put Mad and Crackle to pure shame.

And who else but Eisner can deal with such relevant themes as juvenile delinquency, veterans and crooked politicians, with an insight that makes his stories as urgent today as when first published?

TERRY BIGHAM
Mattapoisett, Mass.

I want to say that I think THE SPIRIT is great. Perhaps the greatest comic strip character ever. I want to thank Warren for bringing the art of the great Will Eisner to my attention.

JOHN MAYNARD
Orlando, Fla.

By reprinting the adventures of Will Eisner's SPIRIT, Warren has revived the greatest hero of all time. Even if it is 30 years since the creation of the masked marauder, it is good to see he holds as important a place as ever in the 1970s.

Please don't cancel him now!

RAFFAELE QUIRINO
Montreal, Canada

THE SPIRIT is simply the greatest publication of literature, art and crimefighting that has ever come to be. And the fourth issue of the magazine was simply super.

The cover, as always, was great. My favorite story was "The Spirit of '76."

I would like to see more of Ellen and Ebony.

MARK LAWLER
San Francisco, Calif.

The latest issue of THE SPIRIT (#4) was another in what I hope is a long line of major masterpieces.

I must disagree with William Williams of New York and stand behind your answer to his letter. Ebony is a character of fun rather than spite. His presence is not a mockery to Black Americans, but a chance to enjoy a character of immense possibility.

Please keep turning out this amazing book and I will forever enjoy every line of both lyric and art to the fullest extent.

CHAD GOYETTE
Long Beach, Calif.

Okay, Warren has made a major breakthrough with THE SPIRIT. But don't rest on your laurels now. There are still other classic strips deserving of revival in their own Warren magazines. How about giving us Plasticman, The Phantom, Flash Gordon or Little Nemo.

And since you're now publishing a quarterly reprint magazine, COMIX INTERNATIONAL, how about giving us some of the lesser known strips, there? A full magazine of the Blackhawks, The Shadow, Five For Infinity, Hunter, Mandrake and Dick Tracy is a project comic fans have waited for a long time.

How about it?

MARTIN ARBUNICH
San Francisco, Calif.

I was undecided in my reaction to THE SPIRIT until issue number three! "Lonesome Cool" and "Surgery" were both fantastic. And there was not one story in the issue that even sunk to the level of "fair." They were all great. Keep up the fine work.

JIM BUFAN
Cicero, Ill.

THE SPIRIT #3 had one hell of a cover! I also liked the title logo which appeared in place of the one on your first issue. Unfortunately, the contents of THE SPIRIT #3 were not as exciting as in the previous issues. There was a lot of shooting and killing. But the stories still seemed boring.

Will Eisner's interview with THE SPIRIT almost put me to sleep.

STEVE THOMPSON
Urbana, Ohio

THE SPIRIT continues to move along in beautiful fashion, and each issue just seems to get better.

The covers, too, seem to grow more colorful each issue. And I like those Will Eisner interviews on your feature pages. I am looking forward to the ones with Ellen Dolan and Ebony.

I noticed that your next issue is scheduled for release on September 10. Since issue #4 came out in early August does this mean that THE SPIRIT is going monthly?

JOHN ROSE
La Crosse, Kan.

Not just yet, John! But we did want to give you as many issues as we could during the summer months.

Why?! Why can't you have all of THE SPIRIT's adventures in color? Color enhances the stories, and adds dimension, warmth, and life. Would it be that difficult to either print all color or revert to a regular comic book format? It would be worth it, and would be appreciated by your readers.

MIKE COAN
Eugene, Oregon

The economics of printing, Mike, is such that to publish THE SPIRIT in a full-color magazine format would raise the cover price to a level which would be prohibitive to many readers. And to convert it to regular comics format, would be to sacrifice the quality of color we are able to achieve in our present form. We think our present format displays the adventures of THE SPIRIT to their best advantage. We hope our readers agree.

Will Eisner and THE SPIRIT have been personal favorites of mine since I first saw them, which, sad to say, was not all that long ago. Because of the criminal neglect shown to comics in this country, by producers and distributors alike, I'd missed THE SPIRIT for close to thirty years!

However, the quality of the reproduction in Warren's SPIRIT magazine is excellent... much better in fact than that of the original newspaper publications.

As far as the stories themselves are concerned, each and every one of them is a gem. My only complaint, and it is a very minor one indeed, is that you should keep the comedy stories limited to one per issue. Having both "Merry Andrew" and "UFO" in the same magazine made THE SPIRIT #2 lag somewhat. Although "Fallen Sparrow" and "Pouder Pouf" did much to compensate.

DEAN SMITH
Bucks, England



THE SPIRIT's adventure under Central City, in "Life Below," was the highlight of issue #4 for many readers.

"The character Ebony is a farce!"

I had never even heard of THE SPIRIT until just a couple of months before the first Warren issue. I discovered him in a comic book tome, and immediately began to mourn for those days gone by. My surprise, respect and admiration for the stories and art in THE SPIRIT cannot be expressed! I am just grateful that I was raised by parents who enjoyed such comics as these when they were kids. They were able to convey to me the ability to appreciate the truly great ones.

MARGARET GALIANO
Houston, Texas

Finding my letter printed in THE SPIRIT #4 places no change in my opinion that profit, and not good taste is your motive in continuing the character Ebony.

Your comment that Ebony is "popular with fans of all races" is undoubtedly your private opinion. And your examples of Desi Arnaz and Archie Bunker as latter day examples of Ebony is a farce.

Characters are the products of their authors in any media; yesterday, today or tomorrow. Will Eisner created Ebony through his ignorance. And I feel your cop out answer of ethnics being comic relief in the movies of the past just constitutes your publishing philosophy of "Print it, they'll buy anything!" That's true, of course! The public is more than ever impressed with the Eisner mystique.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS
New York, N.Y.

Once again, Mr. Williams, we thank you for taking the time and the interest to make your views known. However, again, we must disagree with you.

We take particular exception to the statement that Will Eisner created Ebony out of ignorance. If you re-read carefully any of the stories in THE SPIRIT #4, one fact must inevitably strike you: Eisner knows, understands, and cares about people. Through his individual characters, Eisner provides more generalized insights into the human condition, from the greatest of kings, to the lowliest menial. And no writer can do this unless he has a genuine love for his subjects.

The fact that Eisner's characters are as real and identifiable today as when they were first written proves that people saw something in his characters that they felt was worth remembering.

Such a man can not be called ignorant of the problems and concerns of people.

I've just recently been exposed to THE SPIRIT and now I'm hooked. Stories like "Surgery," "The Embezzler" and "Lonesome Cool" left me sitting there staring in mute disbelief! Will Eisner captures the magic in all his stories and artwork, which other writers and artists strive for years to achieve. Kudos to Mr. Eisner for a job well done.

STEVEN HORNBECK
Lake Katrine, N.Y.

I've only been a SPIRIT fan for three years, but your reprints of Will Eisner's work show once again that he was a master of art technique. Too bad Rich Corben wasn't around in the 40s to color Eisner's work!

L. DIETRICH ADONIS
St. Croix

Rich Corben will be very surprised to find out he wasn't around in the 40s. He could've sworn he was born in 1941. Oh, well.

I've only one thing to say to William Williams of New York: I like Ebony! He does not, now, nor has he ever offended me.

I'm just as proud of my black skin as you are, Mr. Williams. But I don't see how a comic book character is going to make me or my race look like monkeys. I accept and agree with the answer to your letter in THE SPIRIT #4. I hope you, as well as other blacks do, also.

JIM BROWN
Los Angeles, Calif.

Warren has once again put Will Eisner and the world's greatest comic character back into the foreground where they belong. After reading your first four issues, I have a few comments to make on each.

The cover of THE SPIRIT #1 could have been better. But the interior contents made up for it. The color story, and the coloring itself, were fantastic. I would like to see more of The Octopus.

"The Criminal," however, bothered me. Commissioner Dolan was usually depicted as a warm-hearted person and it seemed inconsistent that he would treat a lawbreaker as he did.

In issue #3, John Poscik had an interesting idea. And since I am a fan of Flash Gordon as well, I would be happy to see a magazine with Alex Raymond artwork. So how about a full-sized Flash Gordon book?

M. McCORMACK
Springfield, Mo.



THE SPIRIT's sidekick, Ebony, is causing controversy among black readers. William Williams of New York claims that Ebony is a parody of a black man. Los Angeles reader Jim Brown's views are quite different.

The first four issues of THE SPIRIT have been great! But by all means, make the magazine monthly. You have enough reprints to last for years! And let's see more color!

CHARLES EGBERT
Hauppauge, N.Y.

THE SPIRIT can truly be called a magnificent magazine. But one thing still bothers me. It is all reprint.

I would like to see some new stories set in the same time period as the originals. And perhaps you could have a SPIRIT Fan Club like the other Warren characters.

In closing, I would like to wish THE SPIRIT a very long lifetime.

PETER MARES
Hasbrouck Hgts., N.J.

I am halfway through THE SPIRIT #4 and it is excellent as usual. But I would like to register my objection to your editorial policy of skipping around in THE SPIRIT chronology. By publishing installments out of sequence, you eliminate a lot of material that deserves to be seen again.

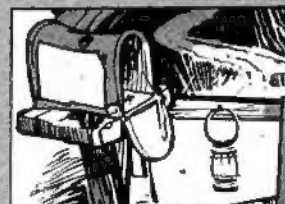
One example that comes to mind is the January 25, 1948 episode in which THE SPIRIT pursues The Octopus to South America, and first encounters Castanet and Mr. Carrion. This set the stage for "El Spirito," the color story from issue #1. Since Castanet has already been reported dead in that one, it is unlikely that you could now go back and run the episode which preceded it. Hence it is lost forever.

H.L. DAVIS
Pitman, N.J.

IT GETS AWFULLY LONELY AND SPOOKY IN WILDWOOD CEMETERY!

Even to a big, tough brute like THE SPIRIT, Wildwood Cemetery can seem like a spooky place at night. Help a lonely SPIRIT. Write to:

THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS
c/o Warren Publishing Co.
145 East 32nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10016



EBONY INTERVIEWS P'GELL

Ebony: P'Gell, how about telling the readers a little about yore life story?

P'Gell: Why?

Ebony: Because yore one of the most notorious of THE SPIRIT's lady villains.

P'Gell: Well, I was a war waif and at the tender age of 14 I became a Nazi general's mistress. The old boy liked his olives green and I liked my diamonds big. It worked out fine. I was older than my years and he was over-aged in grade. We were in Istanbul and there was a good market for Nazi generals... so I traded him in for a better deal. From there it was easy to move up. Today I'm quite wealthy.

Ebony: How'd ja make yore money?

P'Gell: Selling happiness at inflationary prices.

Ebony: How do you feel about male chauvinism?

P'Gell: Great! It's the best thing ever invented for ambitious women. Personally, I'd have starved to death if it weren't for that!

Ebony: How about women's lib?

P'Gell: It's dirty, subversive, left-wing ideology. If the women of the world aren't careful, this could erode their domination over men. Only weaklings need women's lib.

Ebony: How do you feel about THE SPIRIT?

P'Gell: I don't think you're old enough to discuss it yet, kid!

Ebony: I mean as a crime fighter.

P'Gell: Who cares!

Ebony: OK... how about as a man.

P'Gell: Very sexy. Appeals to the little girl in all women. He's a knight errant, who will save the girl from the dragon... and at the same time is vulnerable enough so that she can "mother" him after the fight. It's a combination as irresistible to women as alcohol-and-perfume is to men. His fear of commitment to a woman is at once charmingly elusive and very revealing. I think he had a domineering mother, and is really very scared of girls. I could really do big things for that boy if he'd let me...

Ebony: But you are always fighting him?

P'Gell: He bugs me! Treats me as if I were a naughty little girl. He flaunts his male superiority at me and uses his muscle. In the crime game muscle counts a lot. Still, there'll be many more adventures with him, and one of these days...

Ebony: How do you feel about Ellen Dolan, Miss P'Gell?

P'Gell: Hmpf! She's the all-American blah! That girl is everything men don't want. She's the kind of girl that becomes your mother. She represents all which I hold repugnant in American womanhood.

Ebony: What d'ya mean, repugnant?

P'Gell: She comes on soft and feminine. You know... "soft and pink." But oh brother, is she possessive!

Ebony: You sound mad at her...?

P'Gell: Mad at her? Why, that baby is my biggest threat! She appeals to THE SPIRIT's masculinity, and once he's on that trip, nothing will stop him. ELLEN DOLAN IS A PAIN!

Ebony: But she's so nice and helpless.

P'Gell: THAT'S THE BIT! She is working his male chauvinist hang-up to a fare-thee-well.

Ebony: Don't yo' think that if yo went straight, you could...?

P'Gell: Straight? WHY? I'm doing okay now!

Ebony: But you're living this life of sin! You must be unhappy!

P'Gell: Lissen kid, who authorized you to interview ME?

Ebony: Mr. Eisner.

P'Gell: Why are they always doing this to me?

Ebony: Doing what?

P'Gell: Sending a boy to do a man's work.

Ebony: Ah resent that!

P'Gell: Come back and see me when you're a little older, kid!



THE RETURN

TO ANYONE AWAY FROM HIS HOME TOWN FOR A LONG TIME, HOM COMING MUST ALWAYS A STRANGE EXPERIENCE THIS IS TRUE WHETHER A SMALL VILLAGE OR A BIG LIKE CENTRAL CITY. AND SO, IT WAS THIS UNE EMOTION THE SPIRIT FELT LITTLE TUG STROVE TO PUSH STEAMER THAT RETURNED THE TROPICS, ONE WET AND NIGHT.

SPIRIT IN SAN CEDROS

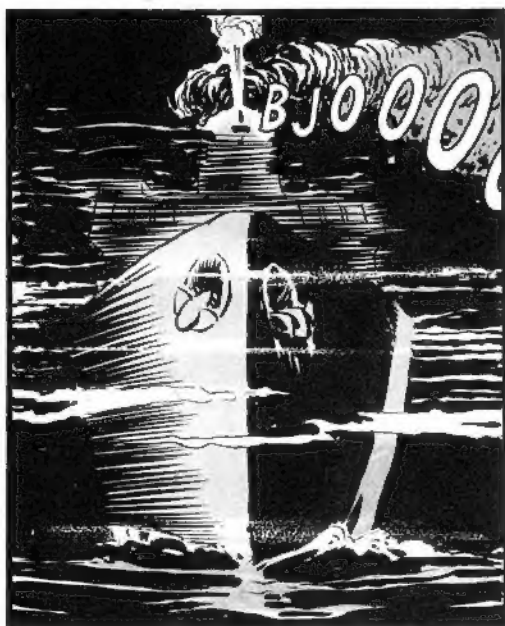
SPIRIT SEEN ON MARQUESA

CENTRAL CITY AGE
SPIRIT STILL MISSING

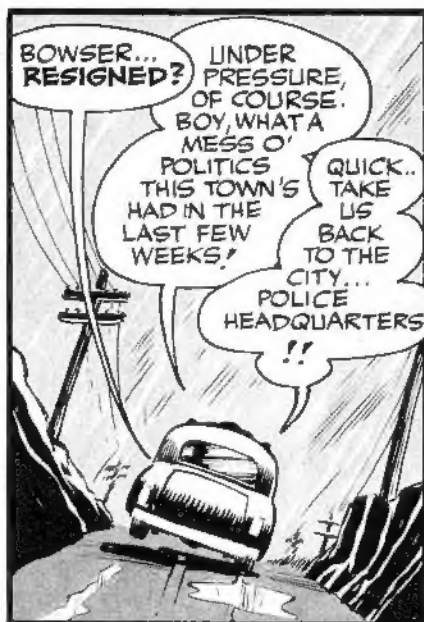
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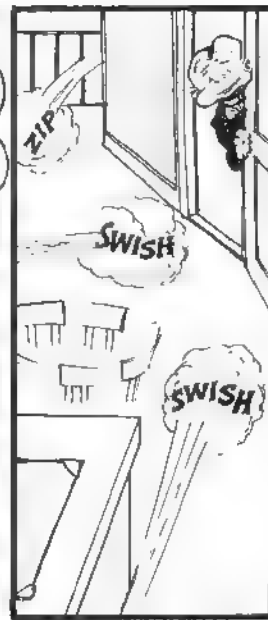
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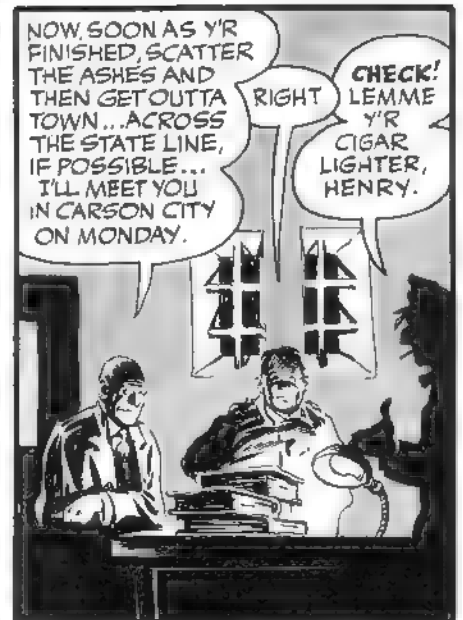
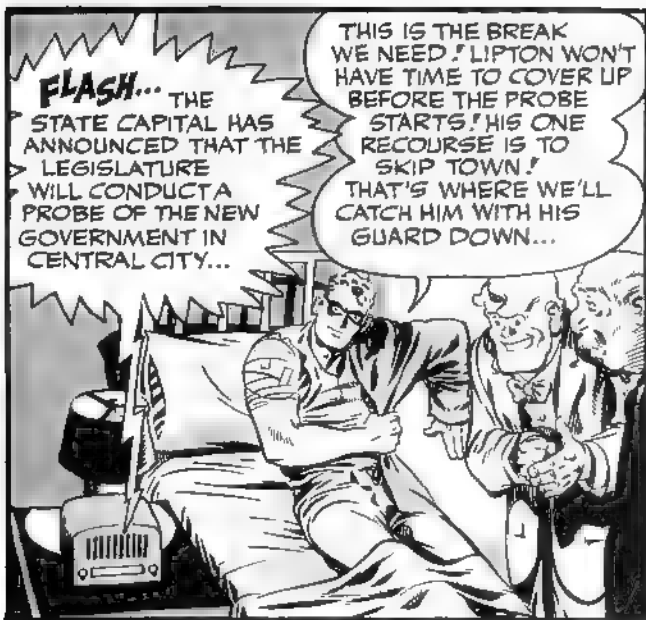
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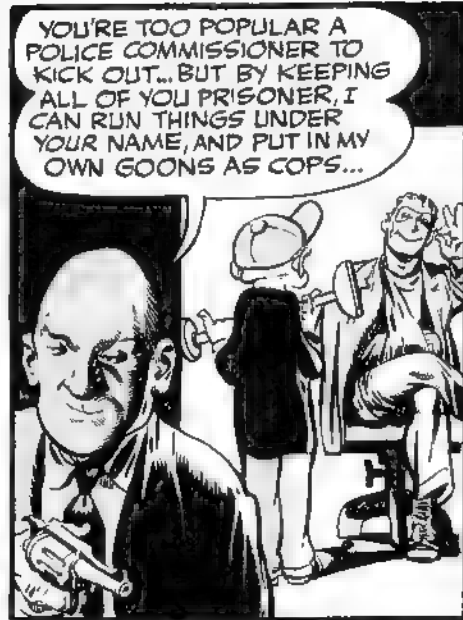












THE SPIRIT NOW DEPUTY

**FAMOUS CRIMEFIGHTER
ASSIGNED TO COMMISSIONER
DOLAN'S OFFICE**

**OUTSTANDING LAW-
ENFORCEMENT RECORD
HELD BY SPIRIT**

By Will Eisner

The famous masked crimefighter, the Spirit, is today an official member of Central City's Police Department.

This makes official what has been a fact for some years now. Technically, the Spirit was an outlaw; but he had been actively cooperating with law enforcement authorities as a

(cont. on page 12)

The name, "The Spirit", has been a byword for justice. Since



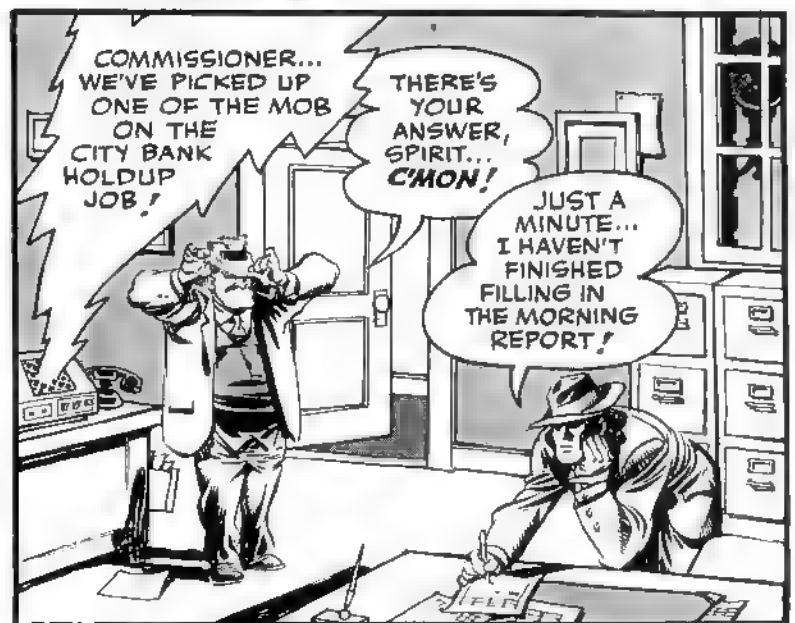
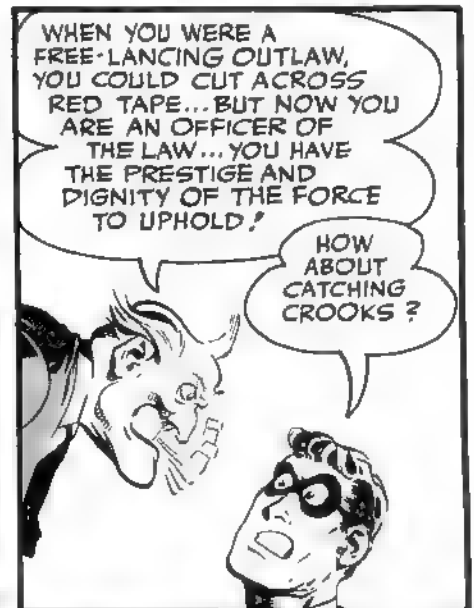
Commissioner Dolan shows famous crimefighter new tour of duty.



The Spirit and Ellen Dolan, daughter of the commissioner, leave restaurant... Will the Spirit marry the boss' daughter?

...appearing in June, 1940, Spirit (the only name under which the masked man is known) has been responsible for the apprehension of some of the world's most dangerous criminals. Several authorities believe him to be the best criminologist Denny Colt,

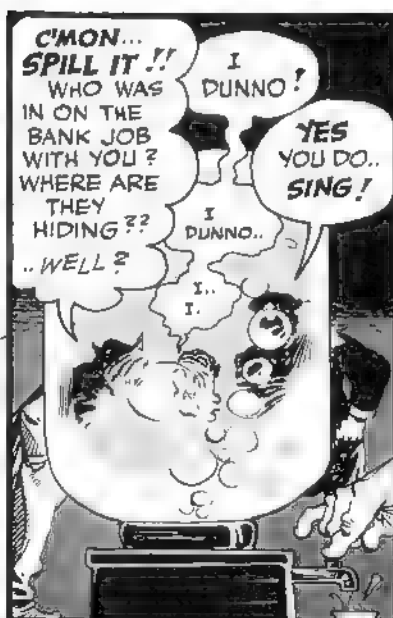






I AIN'T
TALKIN'..
SEE?

YOU'LL NEVER
CONVICT ME
ON STATEMENTS
MADE UNDER
DURESS!

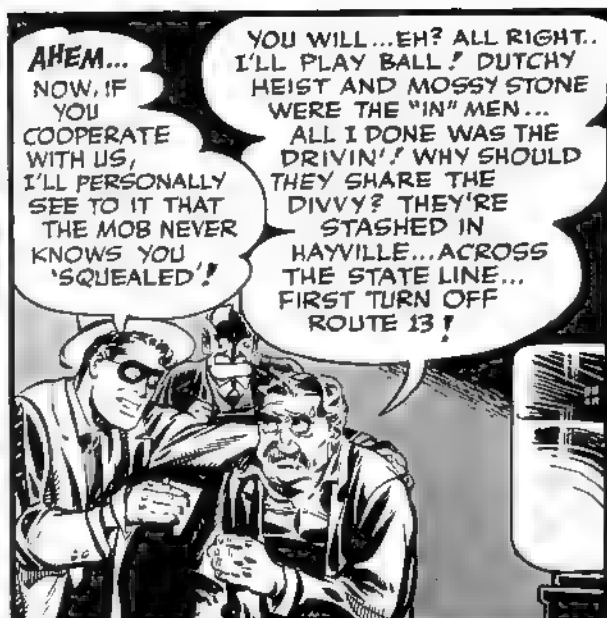


C'MON...
SPILL IT !!
WHO WAS
IN ON THE
BANK JOB
WITH YOU ?
WHERE ARE
THEY
HIDING ??
..WELL ?

I
DUNNO!

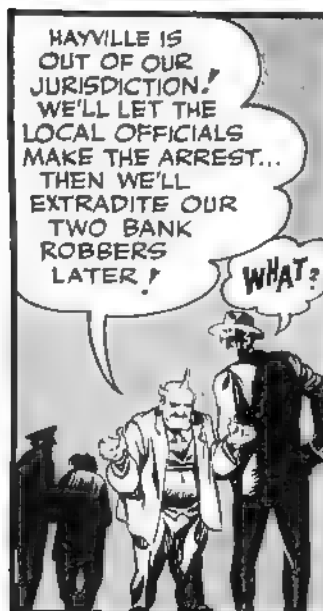
YES
YOU DO..
SING!

I
DUNNO..
I..
I..



AHEM...
NOW, IF
YOU
COOPERATE
WITH US,
I'LL PERSONALLY
SEE TO IT THAT
THE MOB NEVER
KNOWS YOU
'SQUEALED'!

YOU WILL...EH? ALL RIGHT..
I'LL PLAY BALL ! DUTCHY
HEIST AND MOSSY STONE
WERE THE "IN" MEN...
ALL I DONE WAS THE
DRIVIN' ! WHY SHOULD
THEY SHARE THE
DIVVY ? THEY'RE
STASHED IN
HAYVILLE...ACROSS
THE STATE LINE...
FIRST TURN OFF
ROUTE 13 !



HAYVILLE IS
OUT OF OUR
JURISDICTION !
WE'LL LET THE
LOCAL OFFICIALS
MAKE THE ARREST...
THEN WE'LL
EXTRADITE OUR
TWO BANK
ROBBERS
LATER !

WHAT?



IF YOU
CAN... BUT
EVERYONE
KNOWS THOSE
HOODS HAVE
A POWERFUL
MACHINE IN
THAT STATE..
THEY'LL BEAT
THE RAP !

I'M JUST
AS PEEVED
AS YOU ARE,
SPIRIT...
BUT I GOT
REGULATIONS
TO FOLLOW,
AND I FOLLOW
'EM !

HAYVILLE
JUNCTION

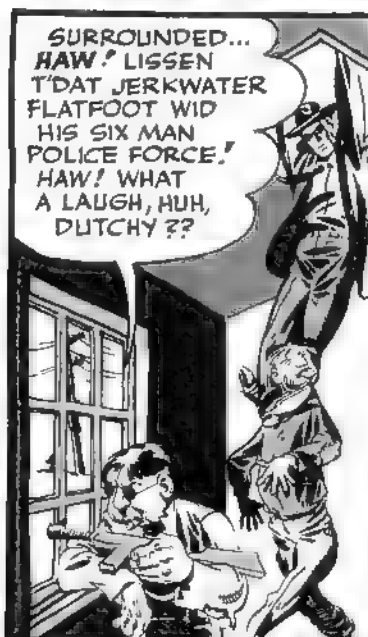
YES,
SIR.



LATER... ROUTE 13,
HAYVILLE...

YOU BANDITS
HAD BEST GIVE
UP! THIS IS
CONSTABLE
KLUBB... MY
MEN HAVE
THE HOUSE
SURROUNDED!

AAH,
NUTS!
Y'BEEN
SAYIN'
THAT
F'R
THREE
HOURS
NOW !



SURROUNDED...
HAW ! LIGSEN
T'DAT JERKWATER
FLATFOOT WID
HIS SIX MAN
POLICE FORCE !
HAW ! WHAT
A LAUGH, HUH,
DUTCHY ??

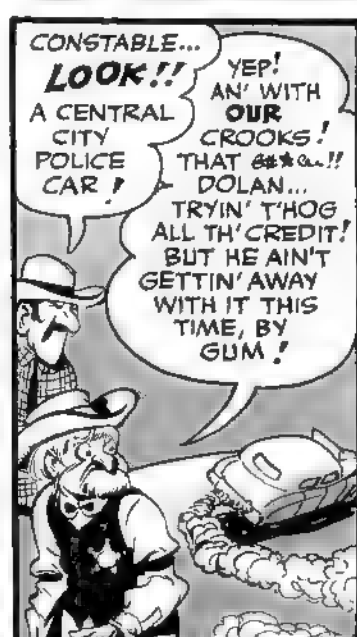


WHAT TH'...

OOF!!

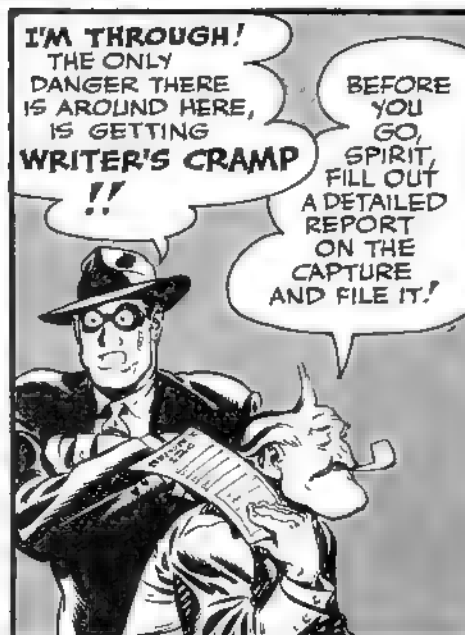
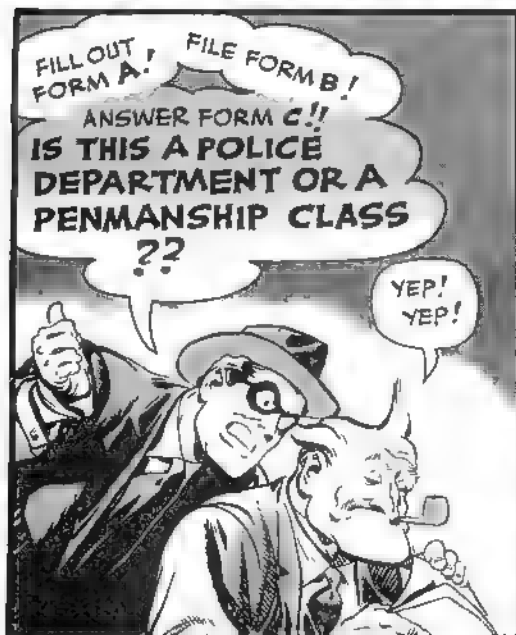
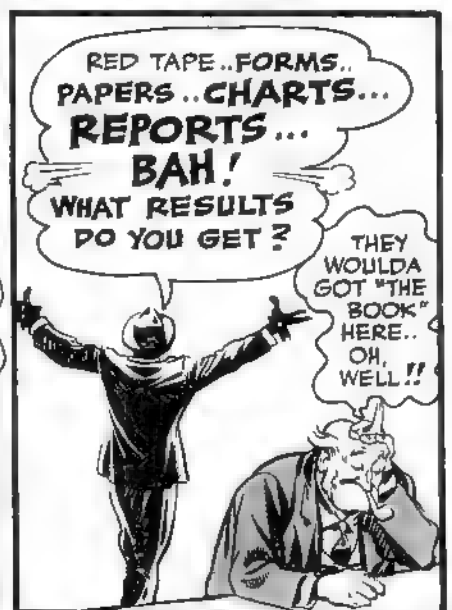
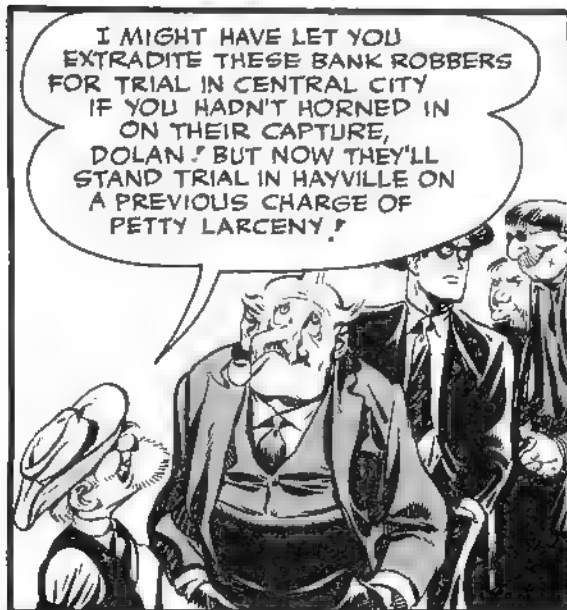
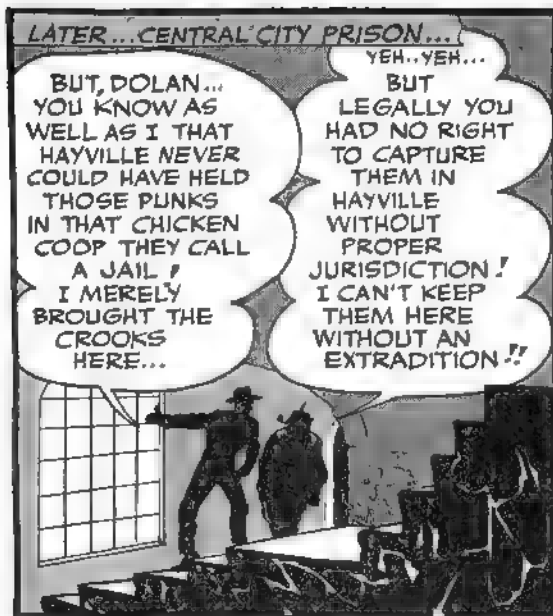


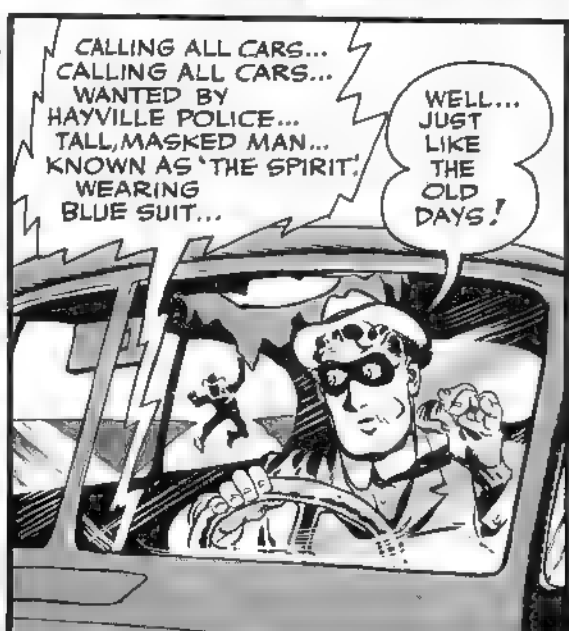
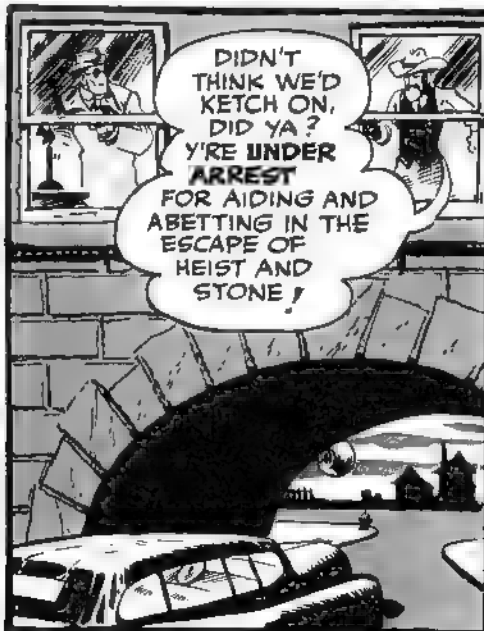
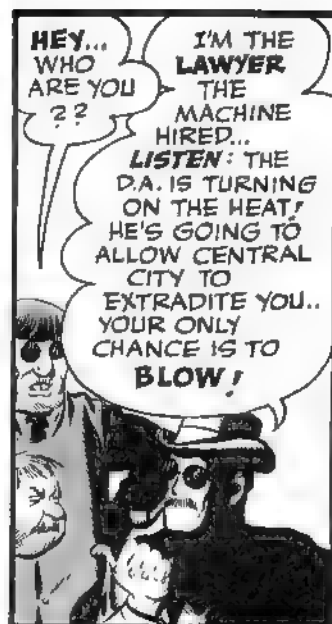
WELL...ARE
Y'COMIN' OUT...
OR DO WE
COME IN
AFTER YOU?

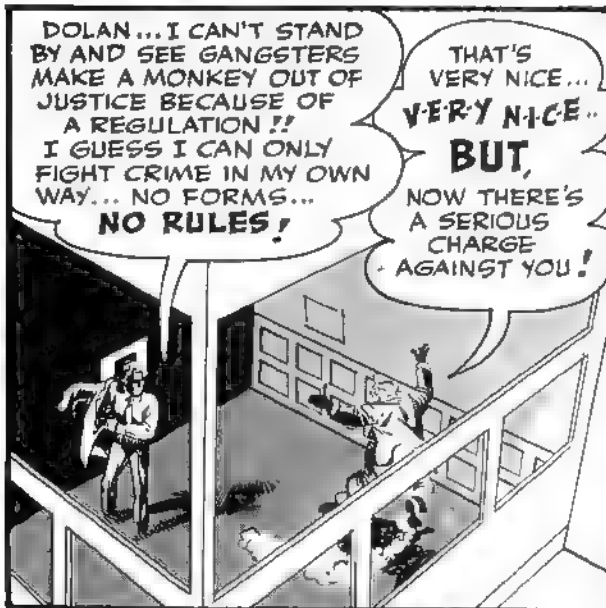
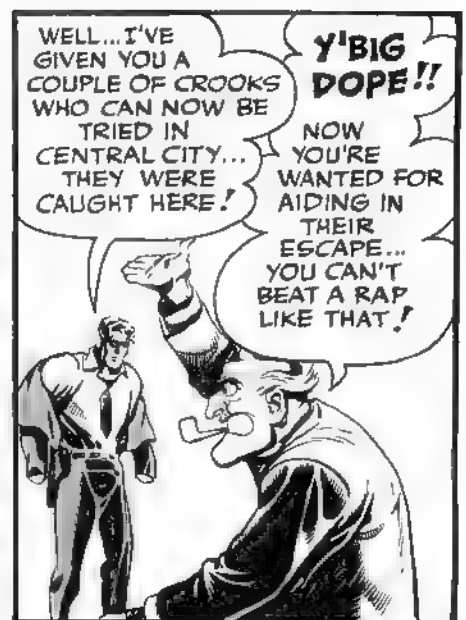


CONSTABLE...
LOOK!!
A CENTRAL
CITY
POLICE
CAR !

YEP!
AN' WITH
OUR
CROOKS !
THAT @*@!!
DOLAN...
TRYIN' T'HOG
ALL TH' CREDIT!
BUT HE AIN'T
GETTIN' AWAY
WITH IT THIS
TIME, BY
GUM !







NEXT DAY...

SPIRIT WANTED

MAYOR ALERTS POLICE!!

Commissioner Dolan silent as manhunt begins.

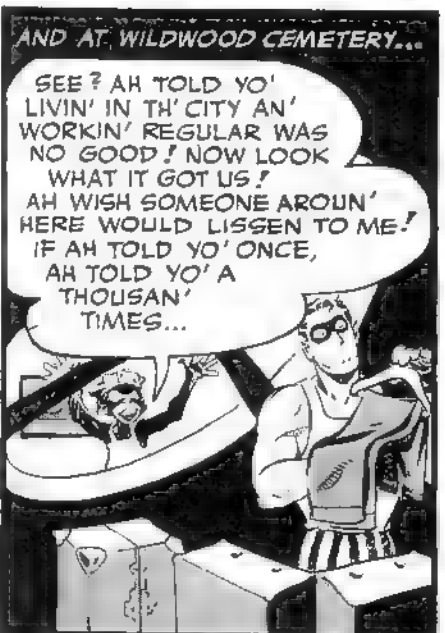
The entire resources of the Central City Police Department are being utilized in the vast dragnet set out to capture the Spirit. Extra duty for all

A'ROBIN HOOD' AGAIN?

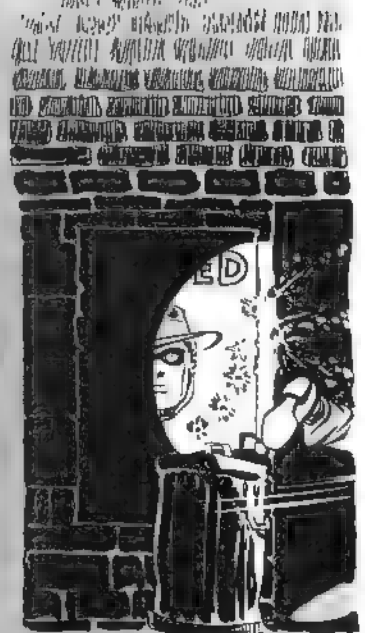


BE ON LOOKOUT FOR THIS MAN!

A GENERAL DESCRIPTION FOLLOWS:
HEIGHT- 6 ft 1 in.
WEIGHT- 200 lbs
COLOR OF HAIR- BLACK
COLOR OF EYES- BLUE



THE HUNTED



CALLING ALL CARS...CALLING ALL CARS... BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE SPIRIT...THE S-P-I-R-I-T...

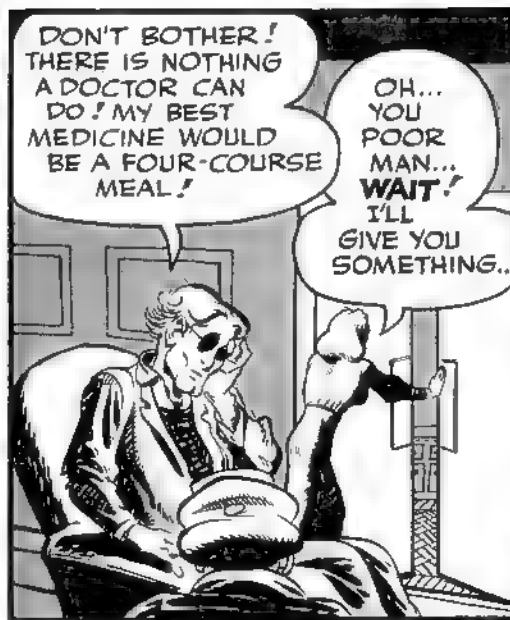


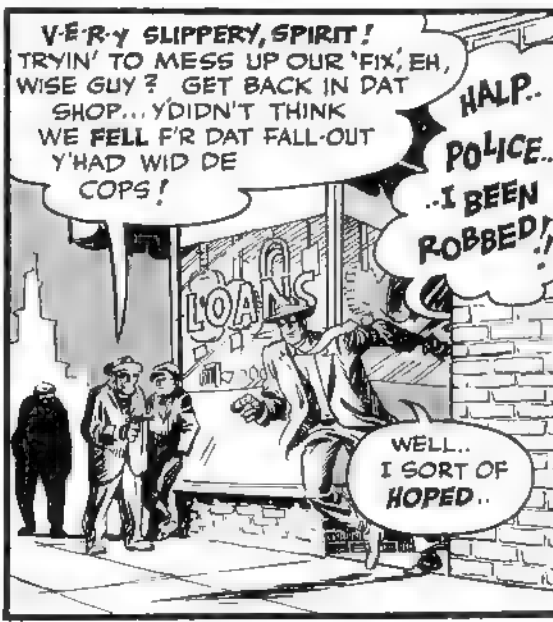
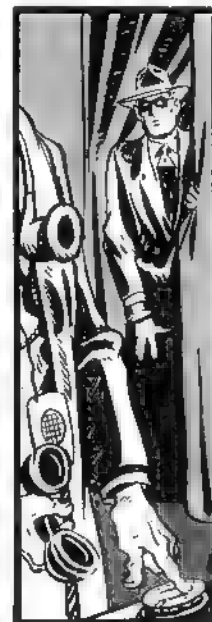
HEIGHT SIX FEET, ONE INCH...WEIGHS 200...WEARING BLUE SUIT...BLUE GLOVES...MASK... WANTED FOR AIDING IN ESCAPE OF TWO CRIMINALS... HE MAY BE DANGEROUS !!



WELCOME TO THE UNDERWORLD, SPIRIT ! HOW DOES IT FEEL, BEING HUNTED, INSTEAD OF THE HUNTER ?









AND AT THE DOLAN
HOUSEHOLD...



ELLEN.. EDWARD..
AT LAST.. I'VE SOLD
IT... I
GOT
\$2500!



HE AIN'T
BLIND..
HE AIN'T
BLIND..
YO'RE BEIN'
FRAMED!!

NOW,
EBONY..
DON'T
BE
SILLY!



HERE, LAMB..
YOUR
MONEY..
THANK
YOU..
THANK YOU..
AND NOW,
IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE
ME, I'LL
TURN ON
THE
RADIO...



2.
AH, A POLICE BAND..
GOOD! THERE
SHOULD BE AN
INTERESTING
BULLETIN SOON..



FLASH...

AN INTERRUPTED
CALL FROM
AN UNKNOWN
DEALER PLACES
THE STOLEN
CARLTON RING
IN CENTRAL
CITY..
BE ON
LOOKOUT FOR
THIS GEM..
DESCRIPTION
IS CONTAINED
IN CIRCULAR
140 B...



EDWARD.. YOU
AREN'T BLIND..
YOU DIALED THAT
RADIO... AND THAT
RING YOU GAVE
ME WAS
STOLEN!

YES, MY DEAR.. AND NOW
YOU ARE AN ACCOMPLICE!
A VERY NASTY SITUATION
FOR A POLICE
COMMISSIONER'S
DAUGHTER!

WHICH
IS WHUT YO'
PLANNED..
NOW,
WHUT'S THE
HOOKER?



HOOKER? DEAR ME.. YOU
PUT IT SO CRUDELY.. LET'S
SAY I'LL HELP YOU BACK
OUT OF THIS... YOU NEED
ONLY BUY BACK THE
GEM, AND YOU'RE IN THE
CLEAR... I'M SURE THE
PAPERS MARKED
"LAMB GANG" IN YOUR
FATHER'S SAFE WILL
BE SUITABLE
COIN...

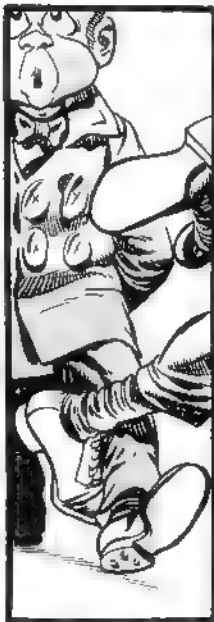
NO!
Yo'
RAT!

PLEASE,
EBONY..
THERE IS
NO CHOICE..
MY
ARREST
WOULD RUIN
DADDY... AND
HE KNOWS
IT!

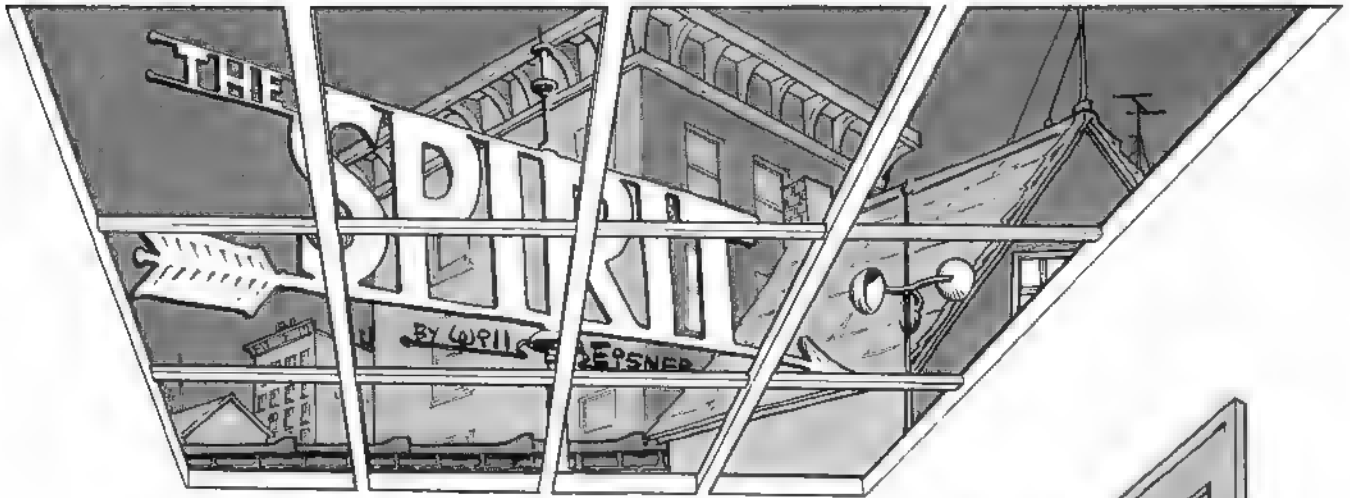


TSK... TSK... DON'T
BE SO GLUM... IN A
FEW MINUTES YOU'LL
BE CLEARED OF
ANY CONNECTION
WITH ME!

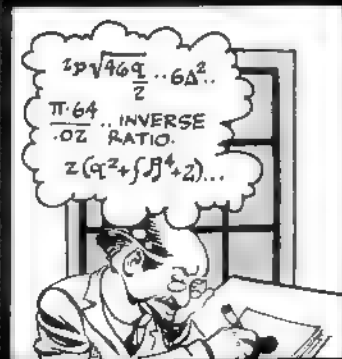




THE PREDICTION

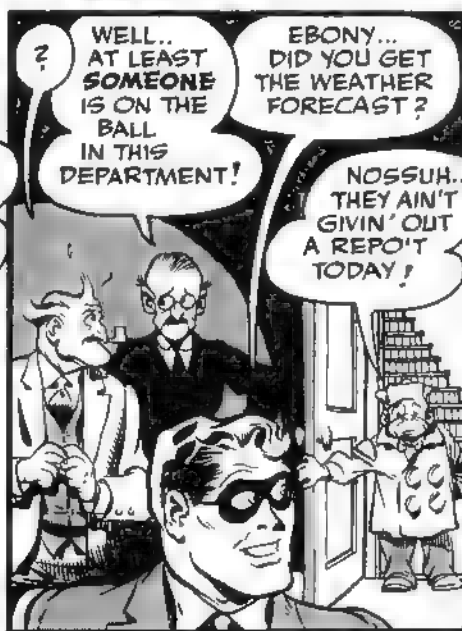


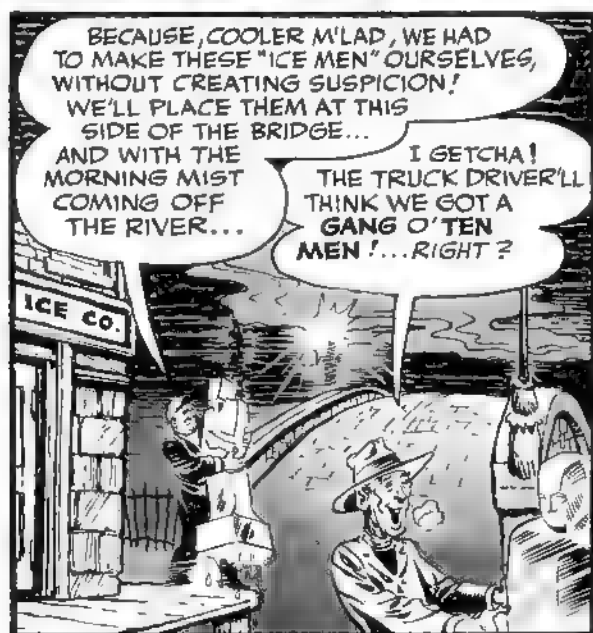
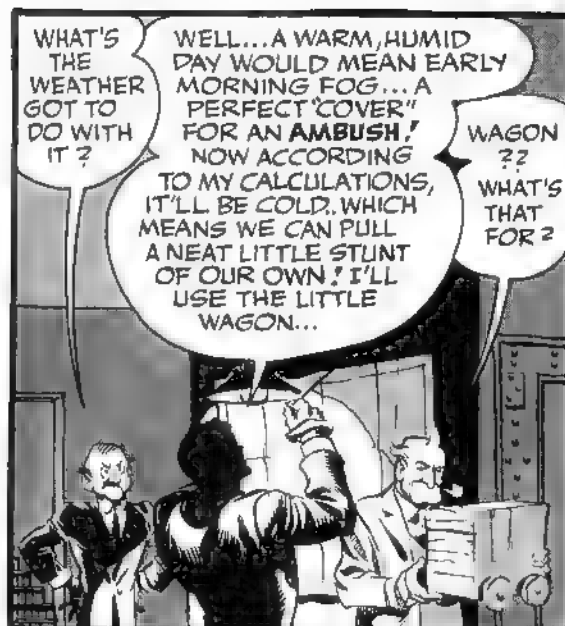
NOW LET
ME SEE...



First Published June 19, 1969
Copyright © 1974 Will Eisner









Our scene now shifts northward to the banks of Newfoundland...

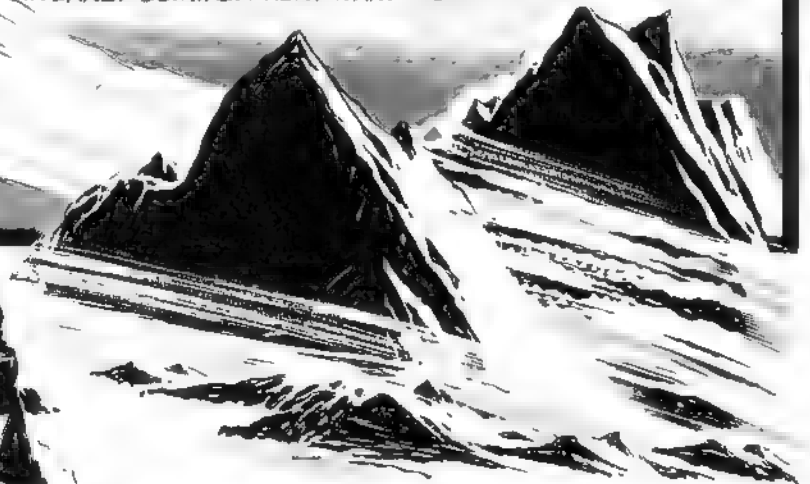


WHEW...
..ONLY
A
KID!

WE'RE TOO JUMPY...
KEEP YER EYES PEELED
F'R THE ARMORED TRUCK...
HMM... THIS FOG IS
STRANGELY THICK... WE'RE
GONNA HAVE BAD WEATHER...
I C'N FEEL IT IN ME BONES!

WITH UNEXPLAINED
SUDDENNESS, THE WIND
SHIFTS TO THE SOUTH...
AND A COLD AIR
MASS MOVES TOWARD
THE UNITED STATES.
ON A 50-MILE
FRONT...

ONCE INLAND, THE CHILLY AIR COLLECTS ITSELF AND INVADES
THE WARM VALLEY WHERE CENTRAL CITY LIES BLANKETED
IN EARLY SUMMER HEAT... AND FOG...



IN THE ICE-PLANT,
WHERE POOR MR.
MILLIBAR WAS LEFT
BEATEN AND BOUND...

SNIFF...
???

..SNIFF..

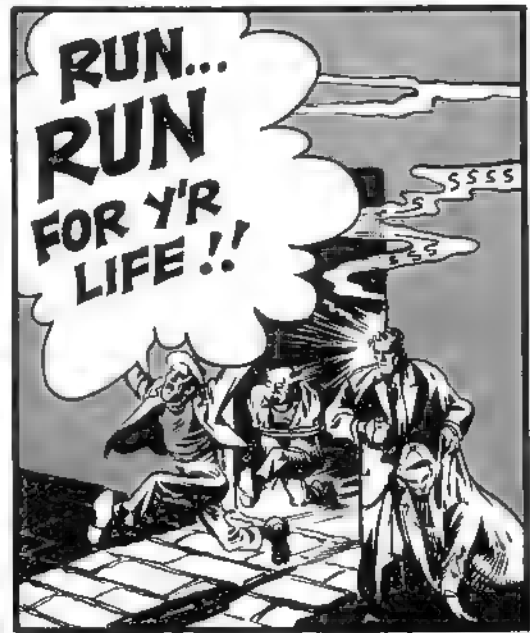
AHA. EHHEH.
OHO.. AHA...

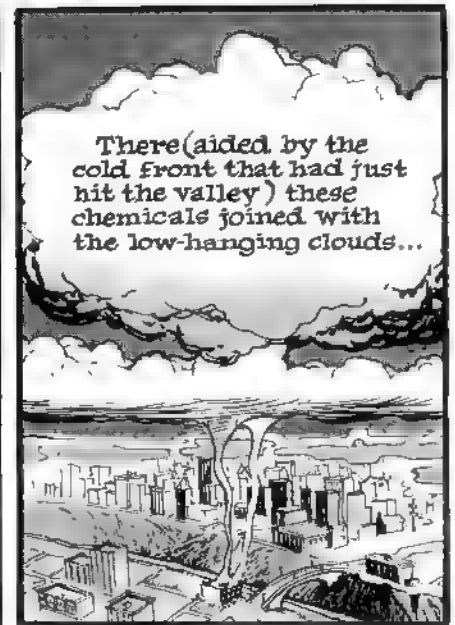
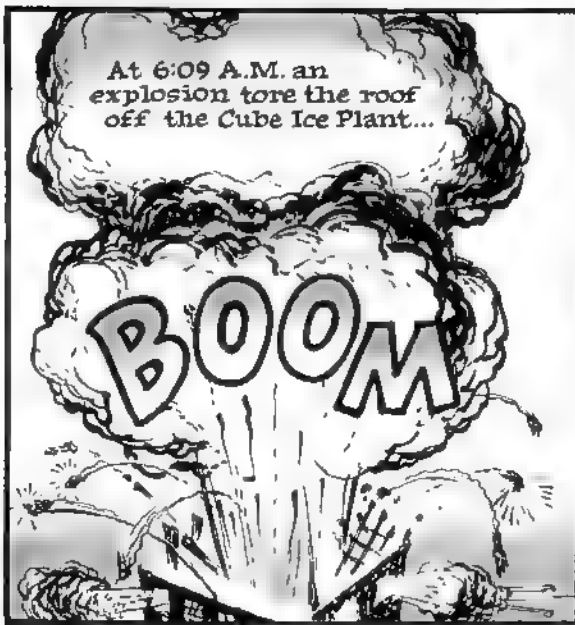
A WEATHER
SHIFT... OH DEAR...
THE DROP IN
TEMPERATURE WILL
OCCUR TOO SOON...
IT'LL RAIN INSTEAD
OF SNOW! I MUST GET
OUT AND CHANGE MY
FORECAST...

OH DEAR... THE POOR
FARMERS... THE POOR
FARMERS...

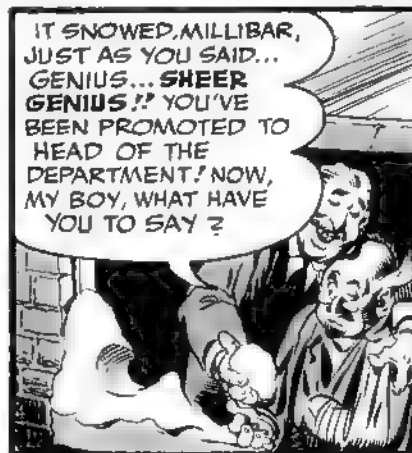
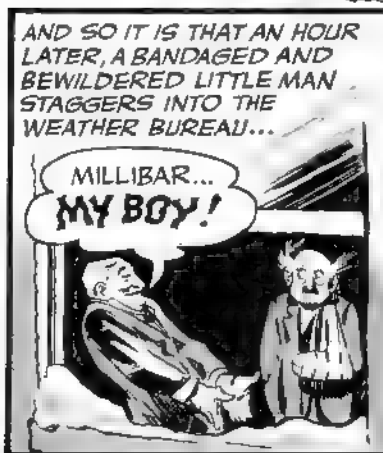
ESCAPE... THAT'S IT...
I'LL ESCAPE!!
... AH... DYNAMITE...
THEY'VE LEFT DYNAMITE...

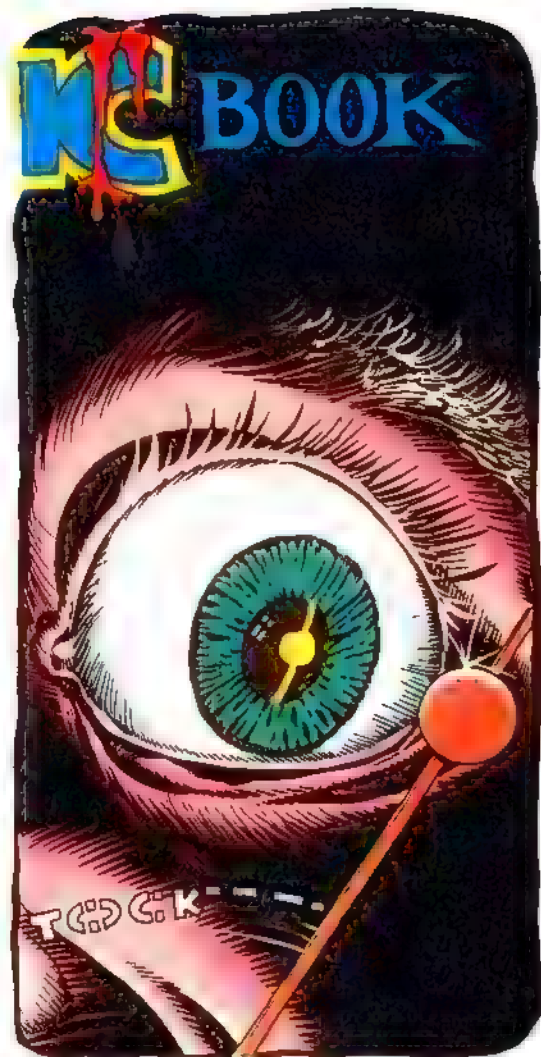
NOW, IF ONLY
I CAN... AHA!
DETONATOR
CAPS!!





..And for the next twenty minutes, snow fell in Central City Valley..!



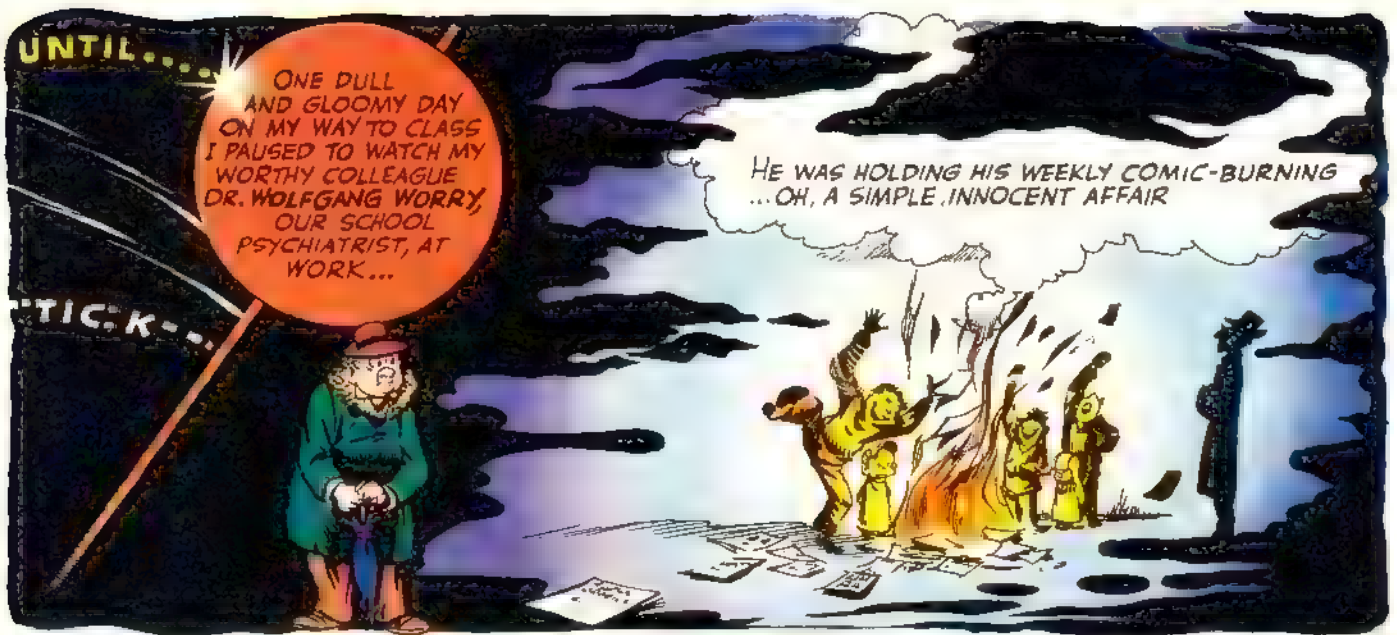


I AM A MUSIC TEACHER...
AN ORDINARY TEACHER TO THE JUNIOR
GRADES OF THE CENTRAL CITY ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL... AS A RULE I AM QUITE STRICT,
AND I HAVE A REPUTATION FOR UNMERCIFULLY
FLUNKING THOSE WHO ARE NOT INTERESTED
IN THE CLASS. SO YOU SEE, I AM NOT
WITHOUT ENEMIES...



BUT IT NEVER OCCURRED
TO ME THAT I MIGHT HAVE AN
ENEMY SO FIENDISH... OR
CAPABLE OF COMMITTING A
TERRIBLE VENGEANCE
UPON ME!



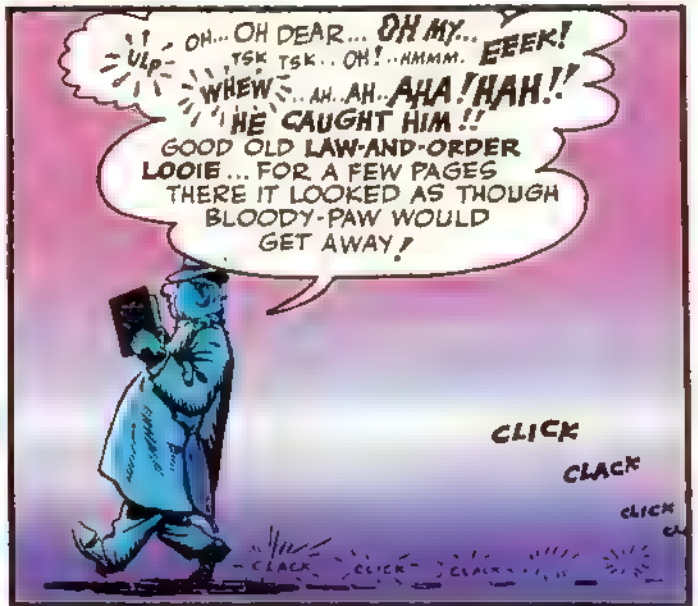
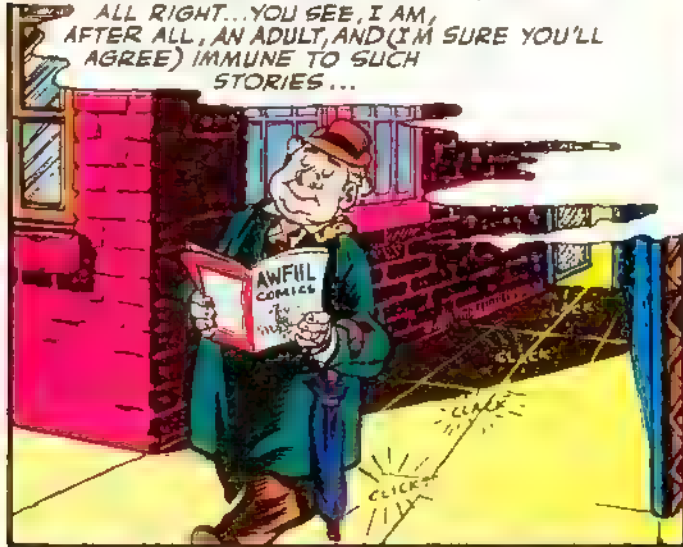


UNTIL...

ONE DULL
AND GLOOMY DAY
ON MY WAY TO CLASS
I PAUSED TO WATCH MY
WORTHY COLLEAGUE
DR. WOLFGANG WORRY,
OUR SCHOOL
PSYCHIATRIST, AT
WORK...

HE WAS HOLDING HIS WEEKLY COMIC-BURNING
...OH, A SIMPLE INNOCENT AFFAIR

I WAS MILDLY CURIOUS...I PICKED UP ONE
THAT HAD ESCAPED THE FLAMES...IT WAS
ALL RIGHT...YOU SEE, I AM,
AFTER ALL, AN ADULT, AND (I'M SURE YOU'LL
AGREE) IMMUNE TO SUCH
STORIES...



OH... OH DEAR... OH MY...
TSK TSK... OH!... HMMM...
WHEW... AH... AH... AHA! HAH!!
HE CAUGHT HIM!!
GOOD OLD LAW-AND-ORDER
LOOIE... FOR A FEW PAGES
THERE IT LOOKED AS THOUGH
BLOODY-PAW WOULD
GET AWAY!

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

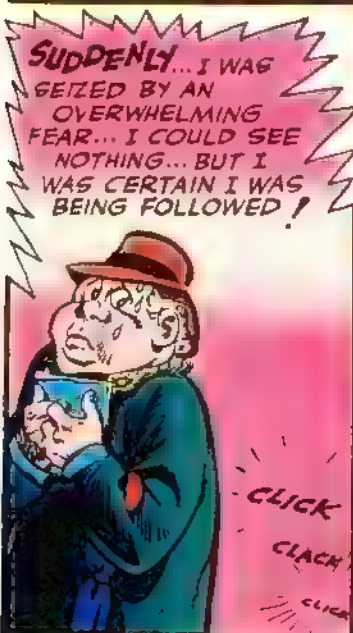
CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

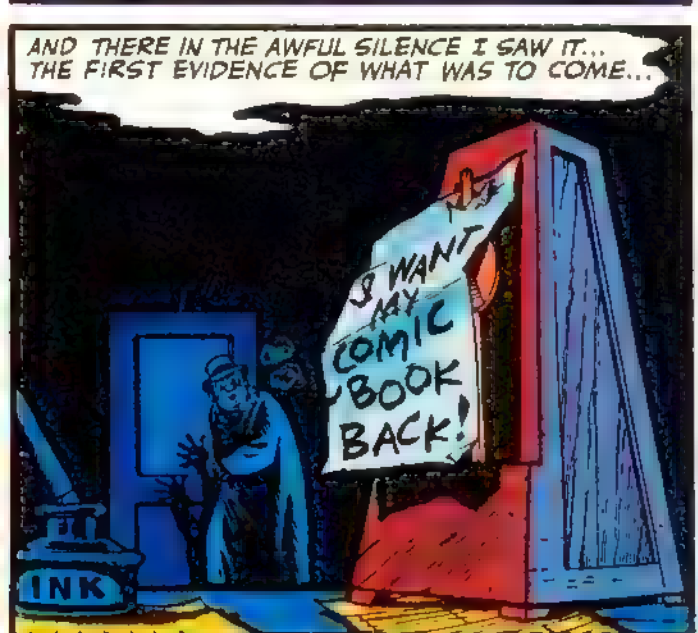
CLICK



SUDDENLY... I WAS
SEIZED BY AN
OVERWHELMING
FEAR... I COULD SEE
NOTHING... BUT I
WAS CERTAIN I WAS
BEING FOLLOWED!

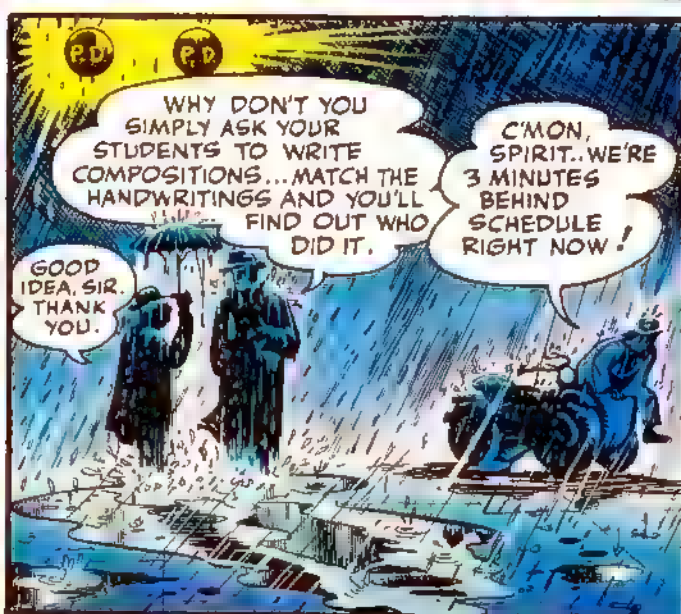
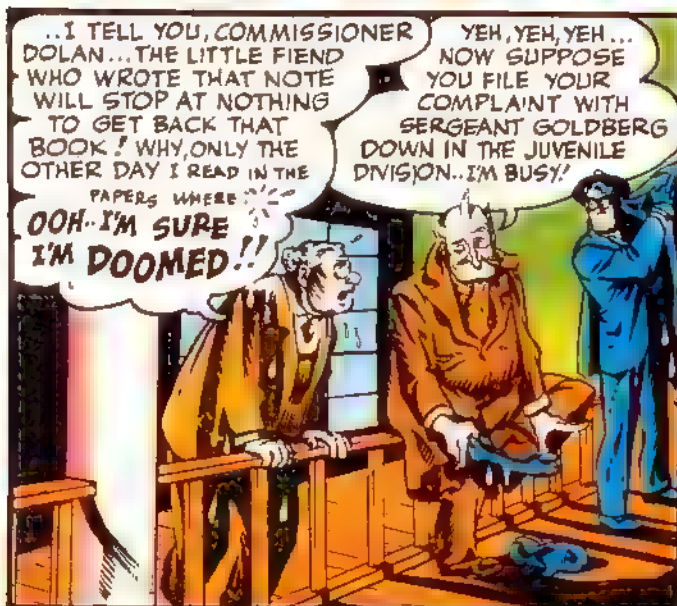
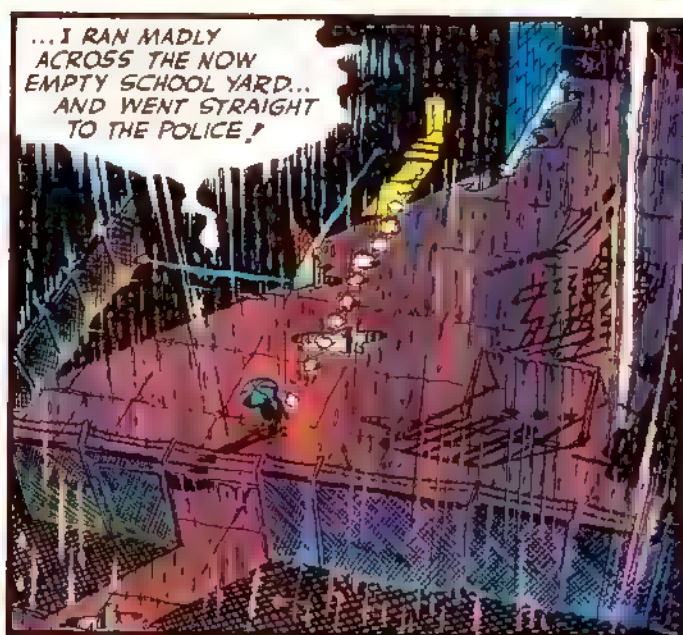
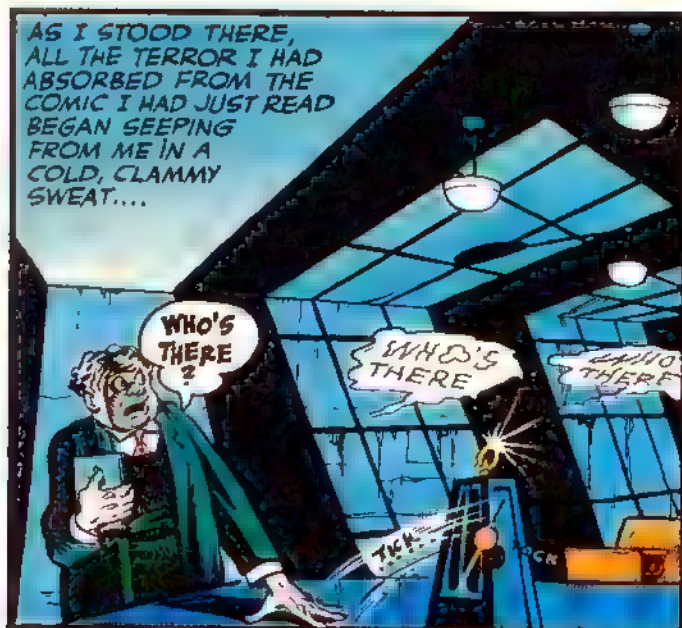


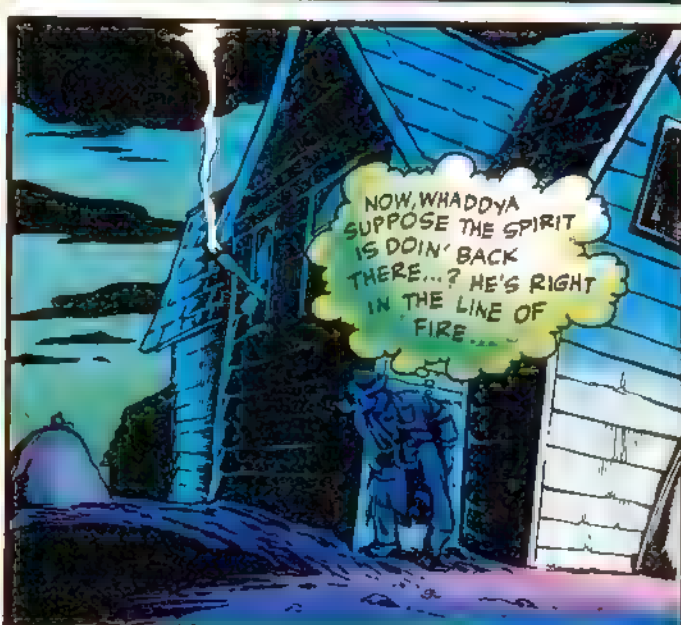
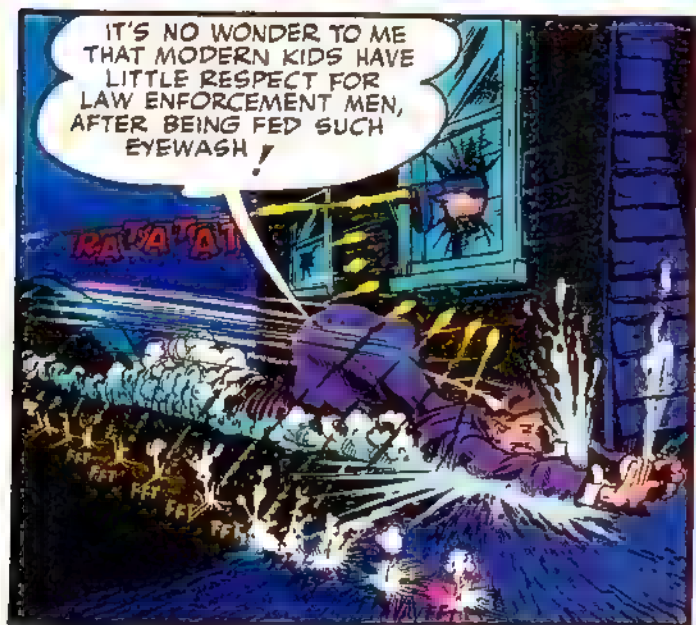
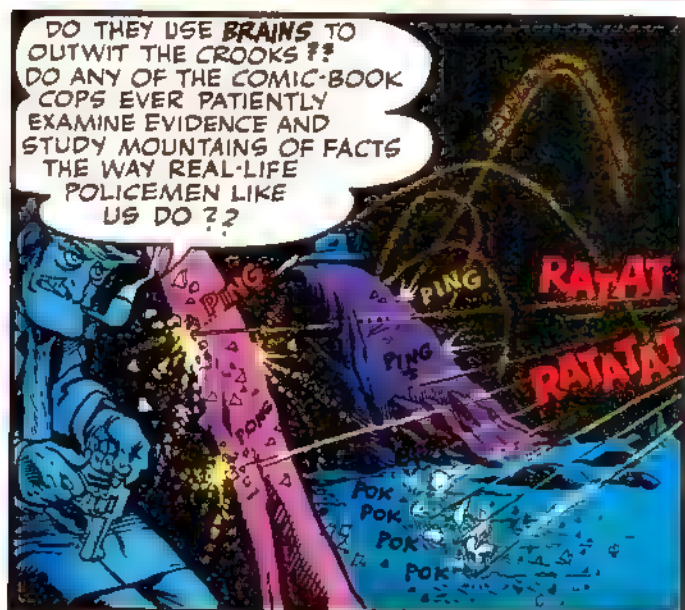
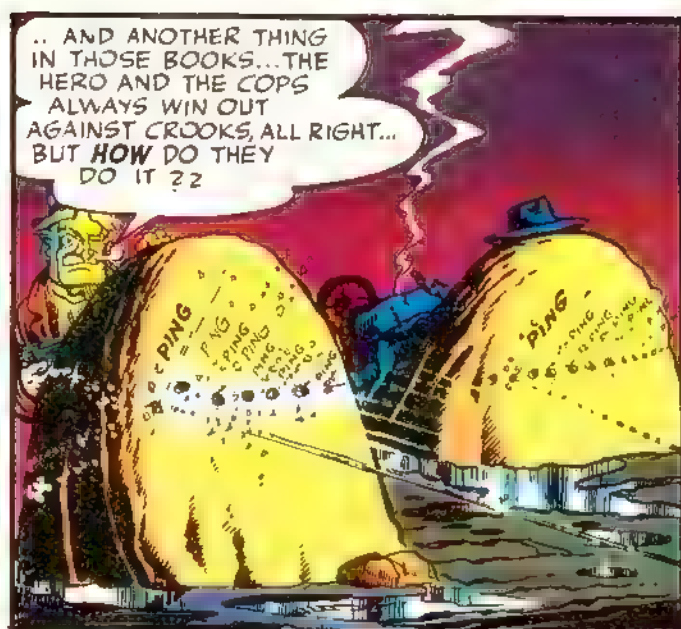
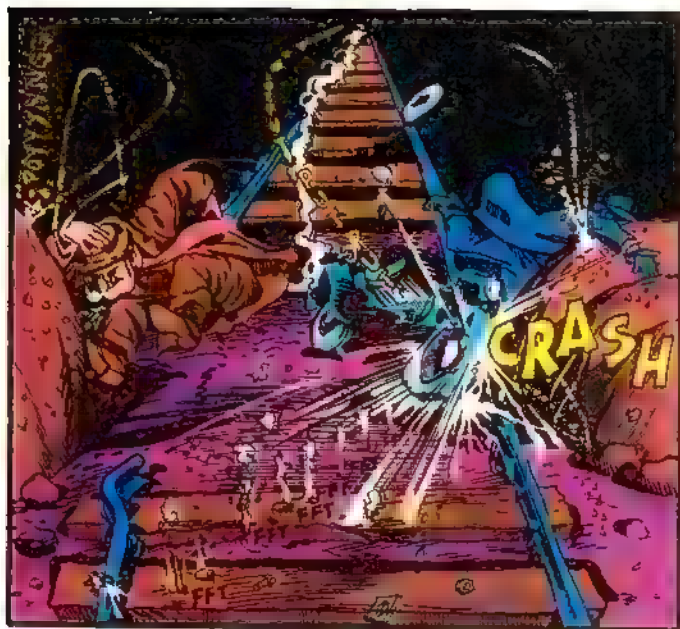
I SWUNG BACK...
DASHED UP THE
PRIVATE TEACHERS'
ENTRANCE...

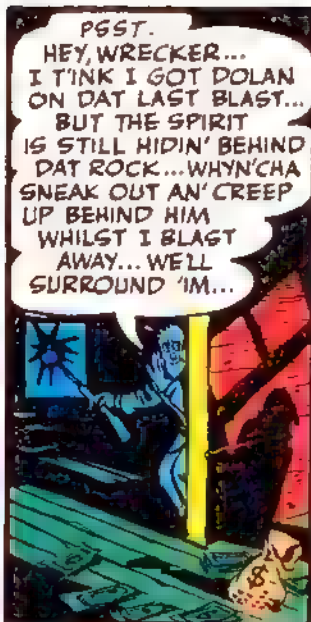
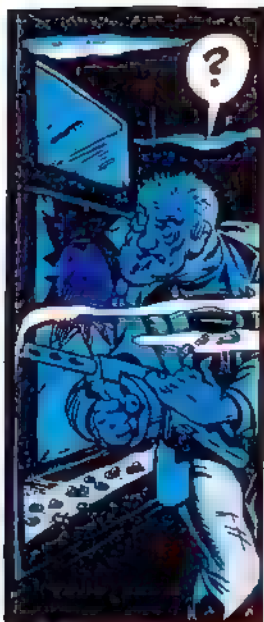


AND THERE IN THE AWFUL SILENCE I SAW IT...
THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF WHAT WAS TO COME...

I WANT
MY
COMIC
BOOK
BACK!







PGST.
HEY, WRECKER...
I TINK I GOT DOLAN
ON DAT LAST BLAST...
BUT THE SPIRIT
IS STILL HIDIN' BEHIND
DAT ROCK...WHYN'CHA
SNEAK OUT AN' CREEP
UP BEHIND HIM
WHILST I BLAST
AWAY... WE'LL
SURROUND 'IM...



HEY, WRECKER...
QUIT COUNTIN'
DAT MONEY
AGAIN AND AGAIN.
I AIN'T GONNA
WIDHOLD YER
SHARE...
DON'TCHA
TRUST
ME?



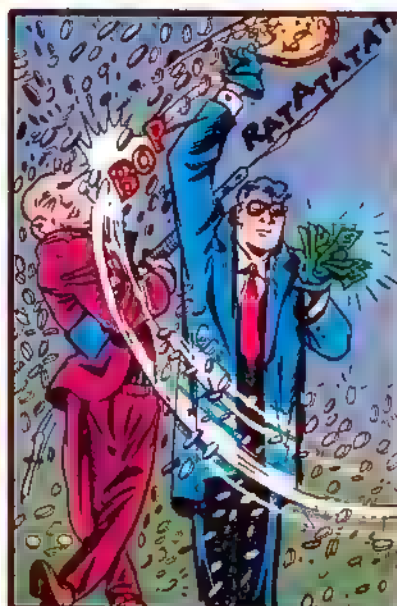
IT'S NOT
THAT I
DON'T
TRUST YOU,
STICKIE...
IT'S JUST
THAT I'M
CHECKING
THE SERIAL
NUMBERS
!!
THE
SPIRIT
!!



Y'SNEAKED IN
THE BACK WAY...
Y'KNOCKED OUT
WRECKER WHILST
I... @##*Qaz*!!

I'LL KILL
YOU!

OH-WUH...
YEP, YEP...

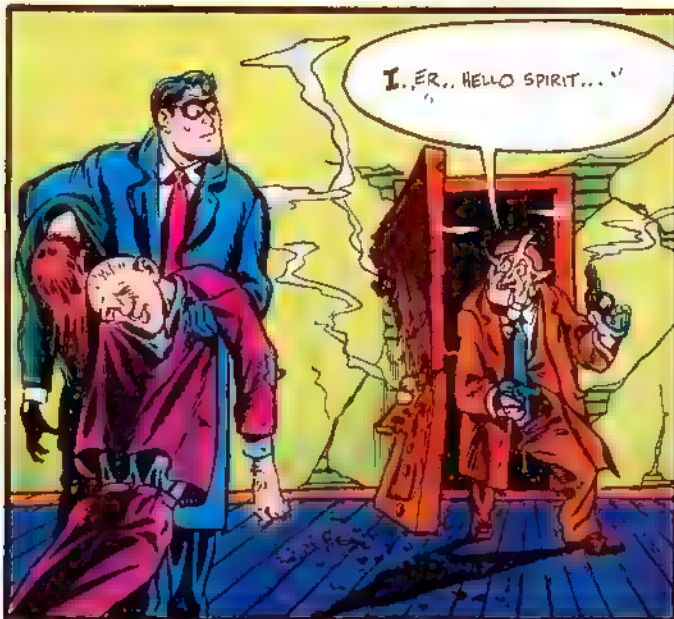


RATATATAT
BOOP

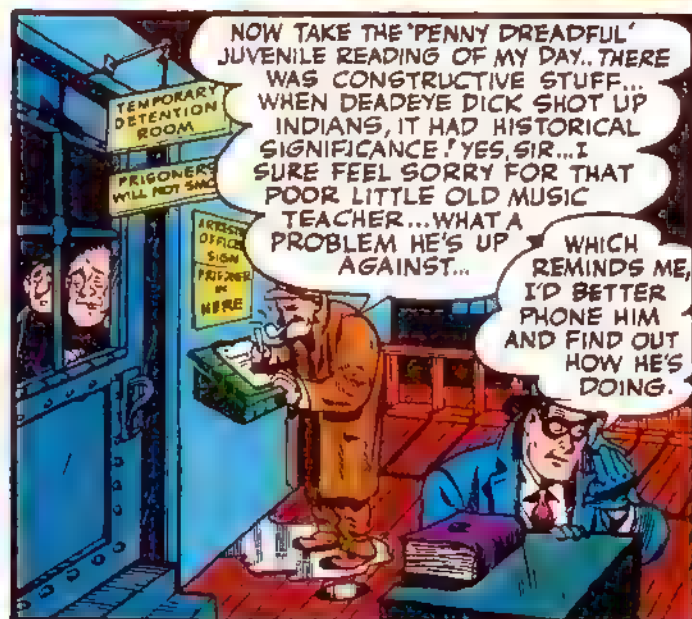


O.K., YOU TWO
RATS !!
I HAVE YOU
CORNERED AND
I'M BLASTIN' IN!

BANG
BANG

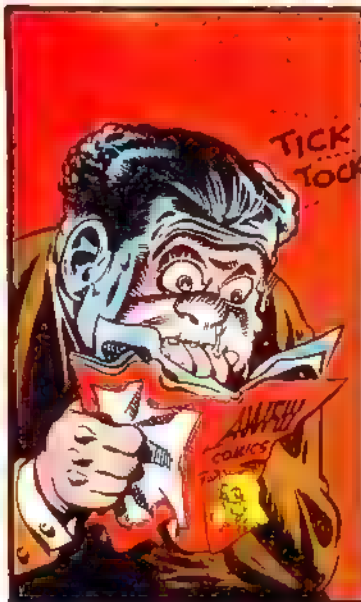
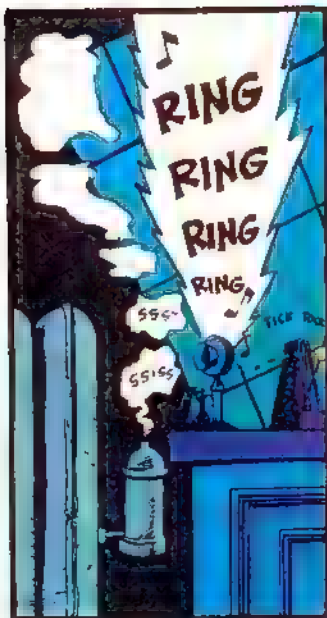


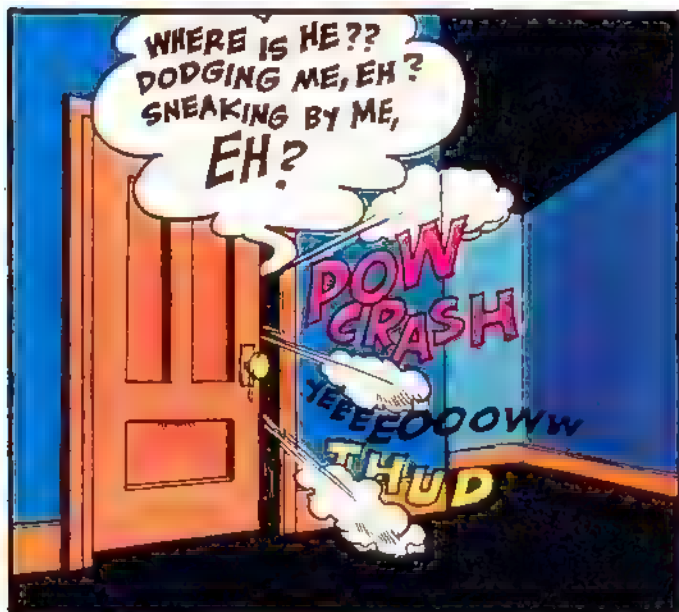
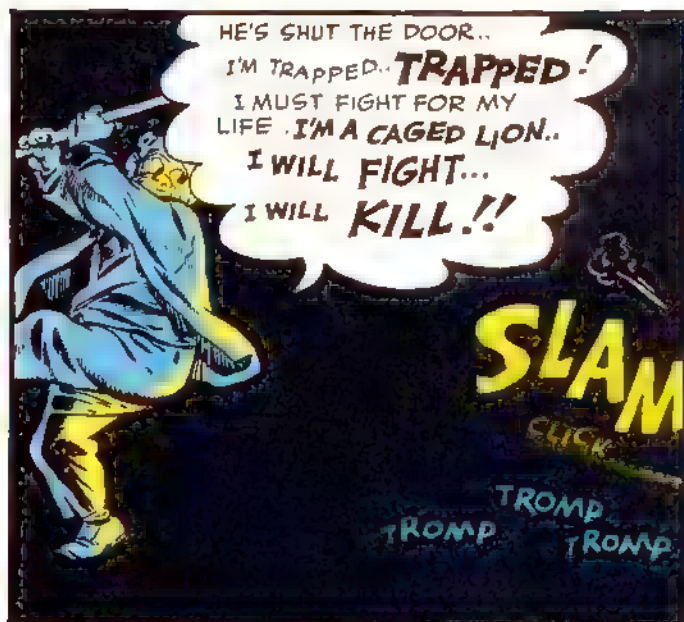
I..ER.. HELLO SPIRIT...



NOW TAKE THE 'PENNY DREADFUL'
JUVENILE READING OF MY DAY.. THERE
WAS CONSTRUCTIVE STUFF...
WHEN DEAD EYE DICK SHOT UP
INDIANS, IT HAD HISTORICAL
SIGNIFICANCE! YES, SIR... I
SURE FEEL SORRY FOR THAT
POOR LITTLE OLD MUSIC
TEACHER... WHAT A
PROBLEM HE'S UP
AGAINST...

WHICH
REMINDS ME,
I'D BETTER
PHONE HIM
AND FIND OUT
HOW HE'S
DOING.



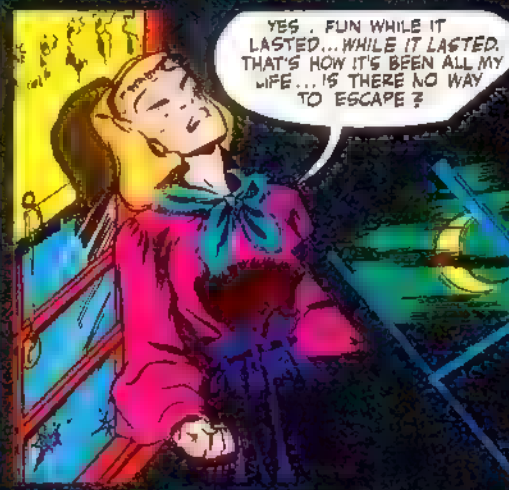
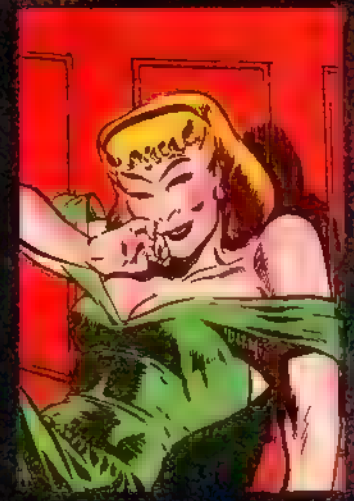




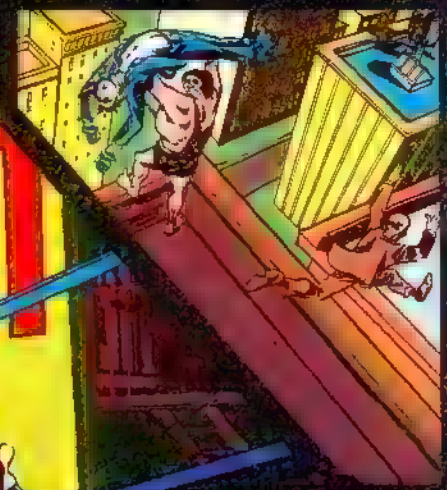
WHERE'D THE SPIRIT GO, BOLAN?

DUNNO... HE SAID HE'D BE BACK IN AN HOUR.

KOFF

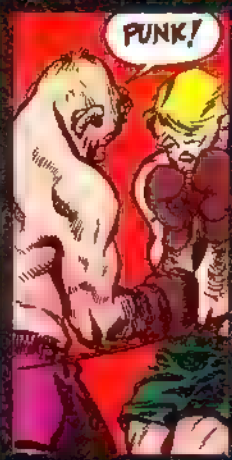


YES... FUN WHILE IT LASTED... WHILE IT LASTED. THAT'S HOW IT'S BEEN ALL MY LIFE... IS THERE NO WAY TO ESCAPE?



FIRST I WANT YOU TO MEET JACK FRYE

HEH HEH CACKLE A FINE LAD AYE A FINE LAD AND OLD JACK IS GLAD TO WELCOME HIM



PUNK!



PREVIEW OF OUR NEXT ISSUE!

THE GREAT EISNER HAS DONE IT AGAIN! GET SPIRIT #6 AND SEE WHAT WE MEAN! IF YOU THINK SPIRIT #5 IS GREAT (YOU'VE SEEN IT AND YOU KNOW HOW GOOD IT IS) YOU WILL WANT TO RUN, NOT WALK, TO YOUR NEAREST NEWSSTAND FOR MORE OF THOSE HAIR-RAISING SPIRIT ADVENTURES IN SPIRIT #6. THE NEXT TERRIFIC ISSUE WILL FEATURE AN EXCITING EIGHT-PAGE FULL-COLOR ADVENTURE CLASSIC YOU'LL HAVE TO READ TO BELIEVE! YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE LONG AWAITED MARRIAGE BETWEEN BLEAK AND SPARROW FALLON! A PROBLEM WITH SPIRIT'S INCOME TAX? GET SPIRIT #6 ON SALE DECEMBER 12!

DEATH, TAXES and...

By Will Eisner

the SPIRIT

The Collector
Internal Revenue Dept.
Central-Federal Bldg.
Central City

Gentlemen:

On March 15, last, at 6:30 PM e.s.t., Socrates Grime left his apartment at 2125 West 112th Street with the intention of mailing his completed Federal Income Tax Return. He was a clerk by trade and a man given to precise habits. He had made an appointment downtown for 6:53 PM. There was absolutely no doubt in his mind that he would be there... without fail.

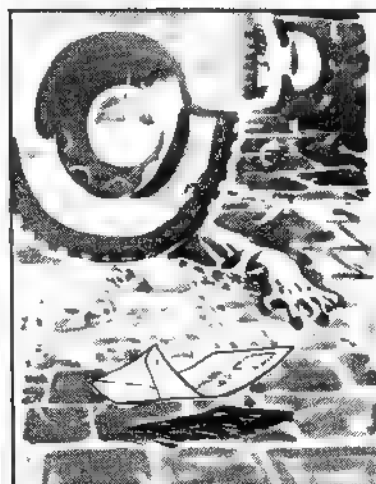
...but as we all know,
only two things are
certain.



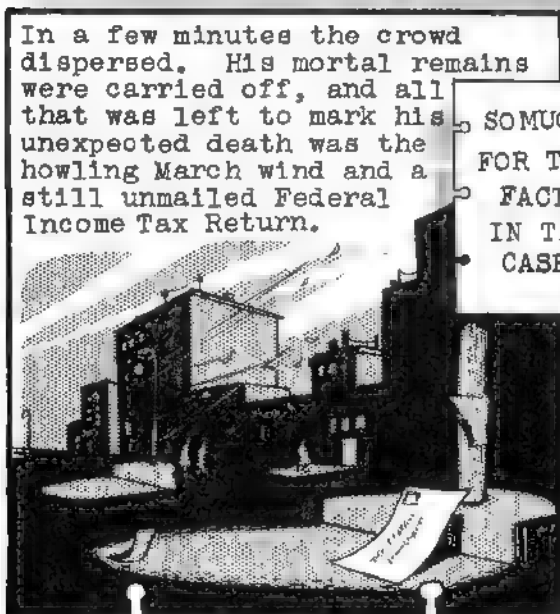
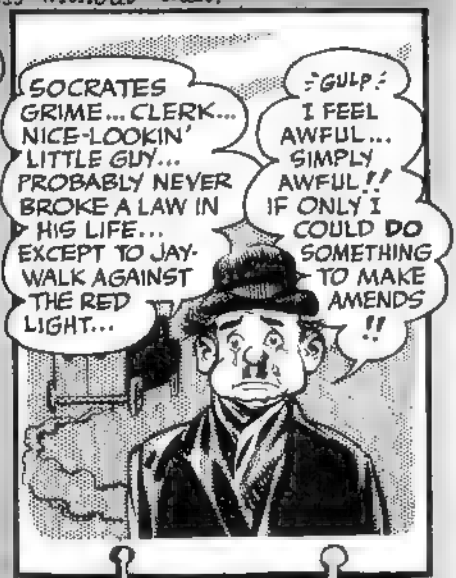
...Death



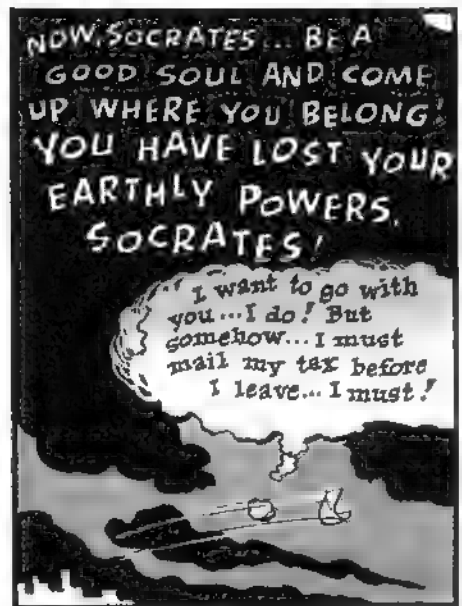
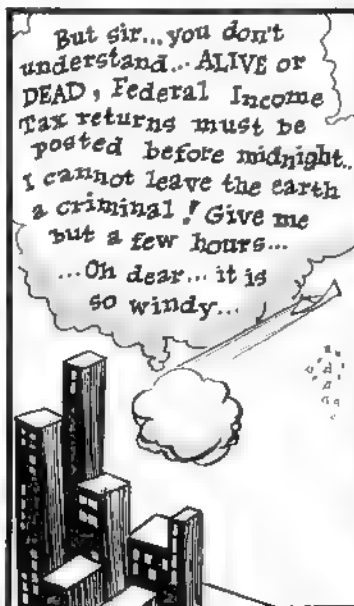
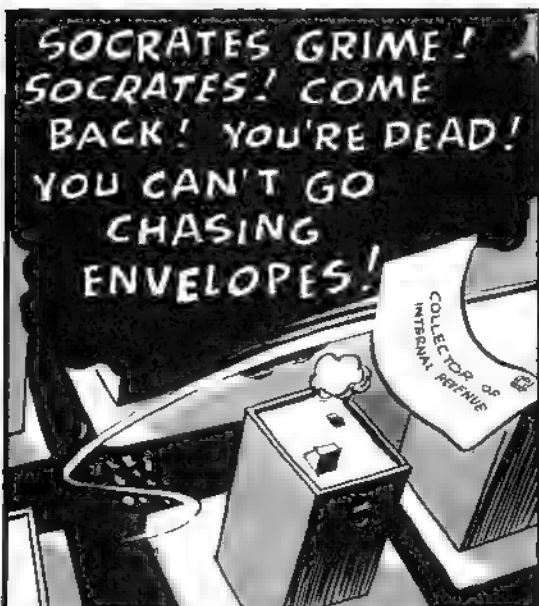
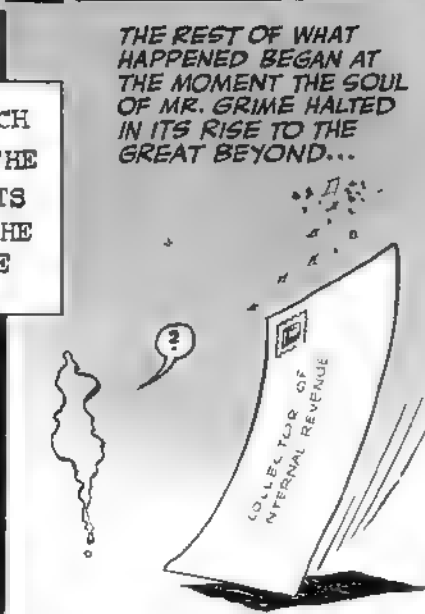
AND TAXES...

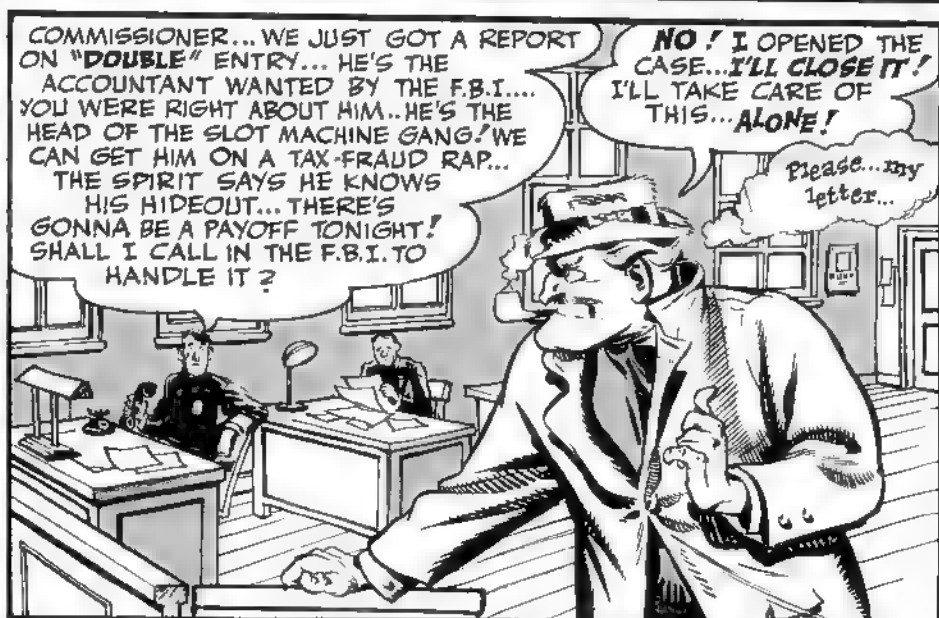
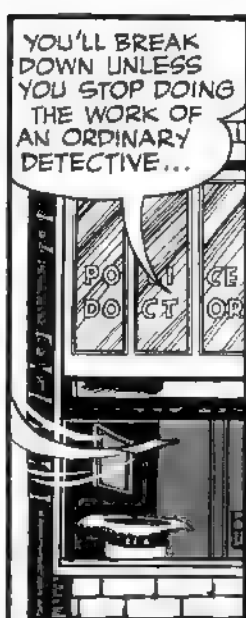


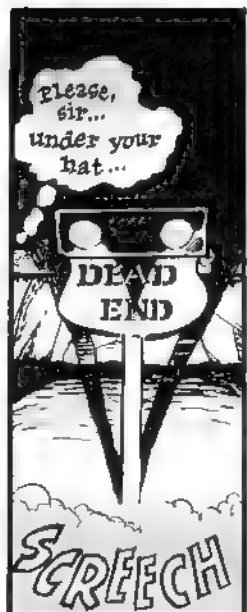
At 6:34 PM, Mr. Socrates Grime jay-walked against the lights and was killed. Very clearly, the motorist who ran him down was entirely without fault.

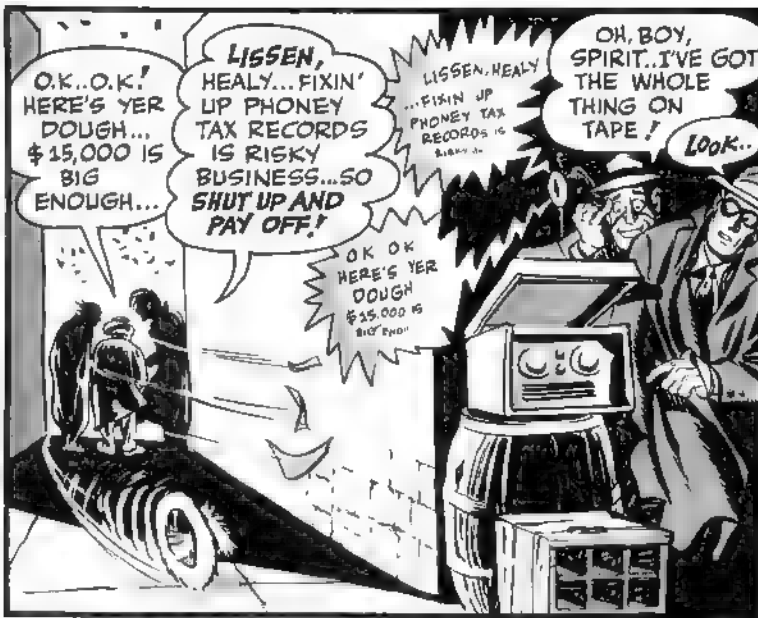


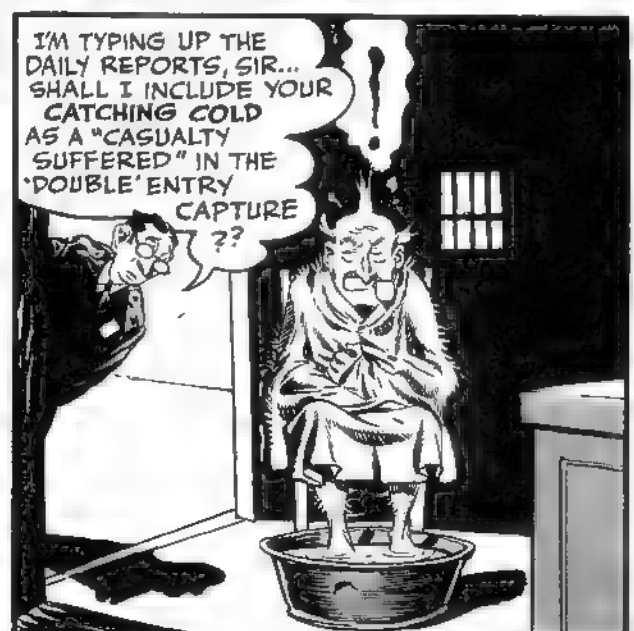
SOMUCH FOR THE FACTS IN THE CASE

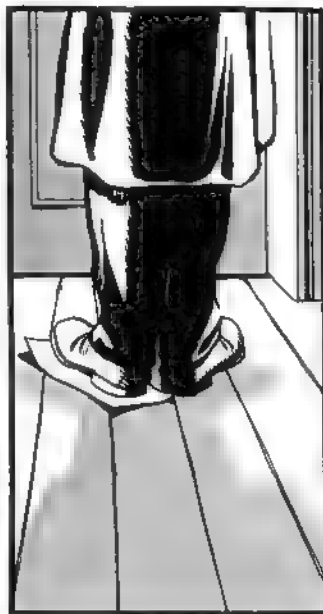
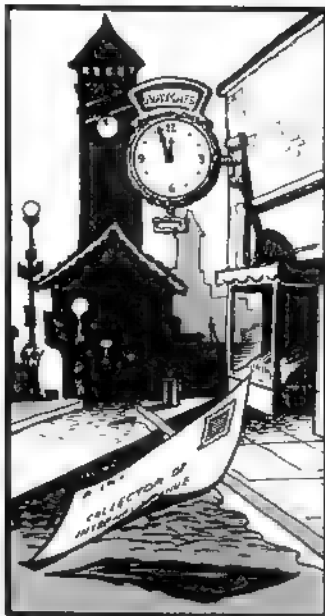






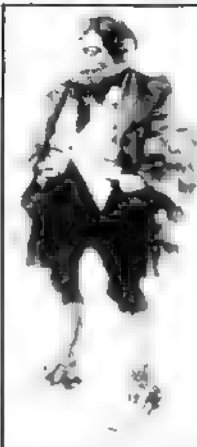






UNCLE CREEPY

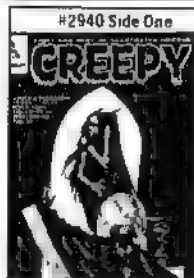
COUSIN EERIE



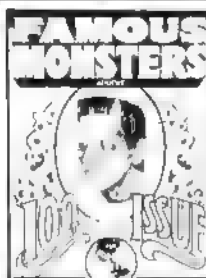
UNCLE CREEPY painted by SANJULIAN 28"x20" of pulsating pigments. Compliment to Eerie, companion to 6' Vampi #2948, UNCLE CREEPY POSTER, \$2.00

COUSIN EERIE painted by SANJULIAN 28"x20" of horrendous hues! There's never been such a portrait! #2946, COUSIN EERIE POSTER, \$2.00

WARREN POSTERS



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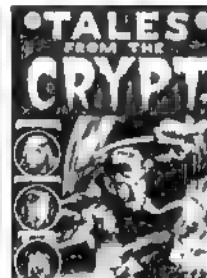
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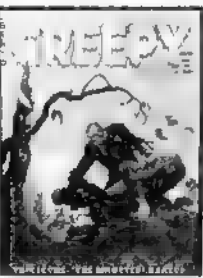
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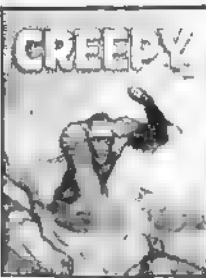
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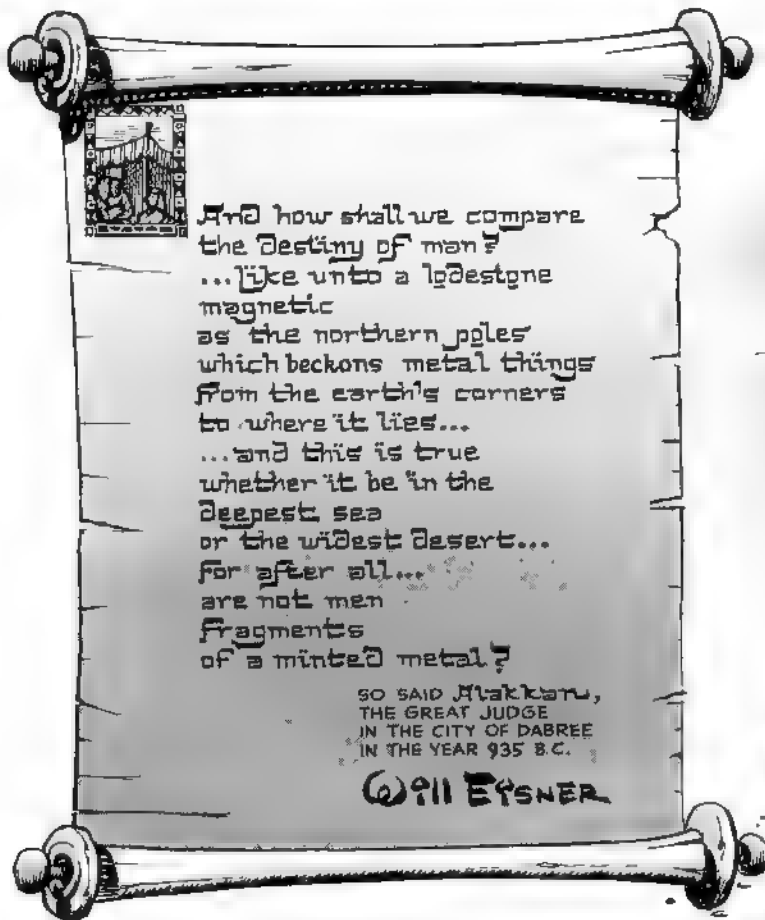


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6 FEET TALL

#2928 6 FT. VAMPIRELLA Full-Color \$2.98

Hamid Jebru



First Published May 8, 1949
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..and indeed, here is the story of such a destiny



..that lay in this desert like a lodestone...



which drew to itself, from
far corners of the earth



two men...myself....



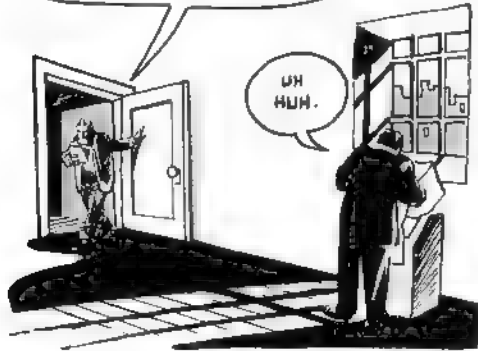
... and Hamid Jebru



UP UNTIL A MONTH AGO, I HAD NEVER
HEARD OF HAMID JEBRU...

GOOD NEWS, SPIRIT!
HAYVILLE COUNTY HAS JUST
DROPPED ALL CHARGES
AGAINST YOU.
ISN'T THAT **GREAT?**

UH
HUH.



SAY! DIDN'T
YOU HEAR ME?
YOU'RE NOT
WANTED BY THE
POLICE
ANY MORE!
YOU'RE BACK
AS AN
UNOFFICIAL
DEPUTY...

SORRY, DOLAN
I WAS
READING THIS
TICKER...
ANGUS GALT
JUST DIED...



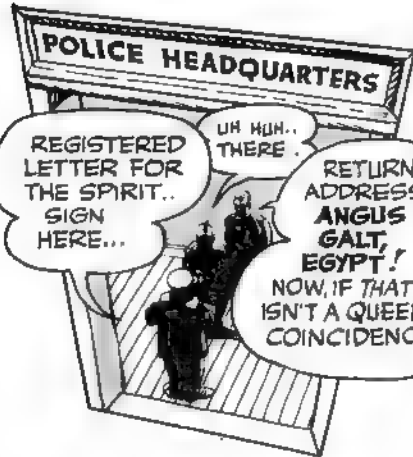
OH..YEAH..YEAH...
AN ARCHAEOLOGIST
OR SOMETHIN'...
PRETTY WELL
KNOWN, TOO...

COME
IN...

KNOCK
KNOCK



... AND THAT'S HOW IT ALL BEGAN...
QUIETLY... BUT FIRMLY, WITH THE
FORCE OF GRAVITY THAT GRIPS
YOU AS YOU LEAP FROM A
GREAT HEIGHT...



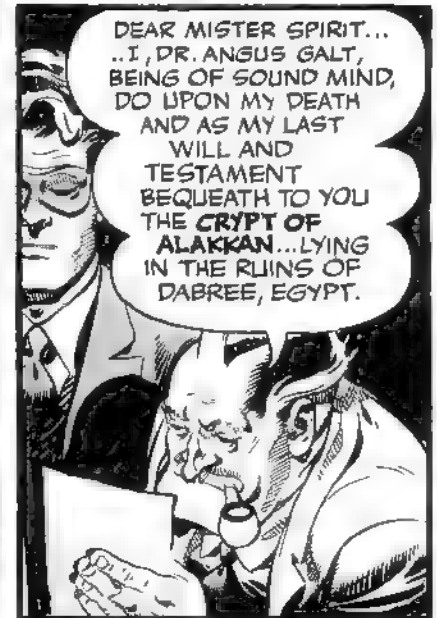
REGISTERED
LETTER FOR THE SPIRIT..
SIGN
HERE...

UH HUH..
THERE.

RETURN
ADDRESS..
**ANGUS GALT,
EGYPT!**
NOW, IF THAT
ISN'T A QUEER
COINCIDENCE!

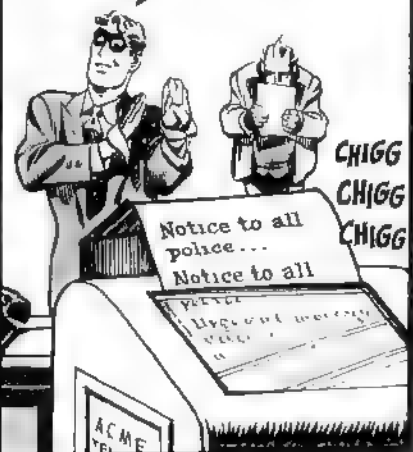


???



DEAR MISTER SPIRIT...
..I, DR. ANGUS GALT,
BEING OF SOUND MIND,
DO UPON MY DEATH
AND AS MY LAST
WILL AND
TESTAMENT
BEQUEATH TO YOU
THE **CRYPT OF
ALAKKAN**...LYING
IN THE RUINS OF
DABREE, EGYPT.

NO, THANKS! LET THE
MUSEUM HAVE IT! I DON'T
FEEL LIKE GOING MUMMY-
HUNTING IN A DESERT!



CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG

Notice to all
police...
Notice to all



**HEY! HERE'S
SOMETHING
BIG ON THE
TELETYPE...
HAMID JEBRU...
ESCAPED FROM
PRISON IN
CALCUTTA..HAS
LONG, VIOLENT
RECORD...
DANGEROUS..**

DOLAN...WHAT'S
WRONG?..YOU
LOOK SICK...

THIS..GULP..
LETTER HAS A
POSTSCRIPT...
"P.S...IN THE EVENT
YOU FAIL TO ACQUIRE
THIS... I FURTHER
STIPULATE THAT THE
CRYPT SHALL FALL TO
THE POSSESSION OF
HAMID JEBRU!"



Calcutta. xx
Anonymous
tip--Jebru
heading for
Europe.

ussels...xxx
us crimes by
Jebru...is now
wanted for
capital
offenses in
16 countries.

Jebru believed
in Paris
burete has failed
loca

CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG

WELL...I'LL CALL
THE MUSEUM...THEY'LL
SEND AN EXPEDITION
TO THE TOMB, GET
THE FIND...AND
THAT'LL BE THE END
OF IT!

London
is not
confirmed
ost of
rumors on
reabouts of
d Jebru
discarded
as false.

BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ

CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG

sh! Flash!
s believed:
be definite:
Jebru is in
the U.S.A.
probably in
vicinity of
Central City.
rther news

CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG
CHIGG

RING
RING
RING
RING
RING

MUSEUM

LUCKY
YOU
PHONED
WHEN YOU
DID, SIR...
WE
FOUND
HIM...GULP...
LIKE
THIS...

WHO WAS
HIS LAST
VISITOR?

SOMEONE
CAME TO
CONSULT HIM
ABOUT THE VALUE
OF A NEW "FIND"
IN EGYPT...
HE WAS HEADED
FOR SAHIDE!

WHAT WAS
HIS NAME,
THIS
VISITOR
BOUND
FOR SAHIDE?

HAMID
JEBRU

CENTRAL C
MUSEU

EGYPTIAN
WING
EARLY
FA

THAT MEANS...

YES... HE'S MURDERED IN
MY PRECINCT... HAMID JEBRU
IS OUR QUARRY
NOW...AND THERE IS
ONLY ONE MAN WHO CAN
BRING HIM BACK FROM
SAHIDE...

YOU

AND SO BEGAN
THE LONG
TRAIL, AT
THE END OF
WHICH WAS
WAITING....

HAMID JEBRU

I WAS CAUGHT! IT WAS POINTLESS TO STRUGGLE NOW!

SOMEWHERE
IN THE DARKNESS
OF THE
UNDERWORLD...

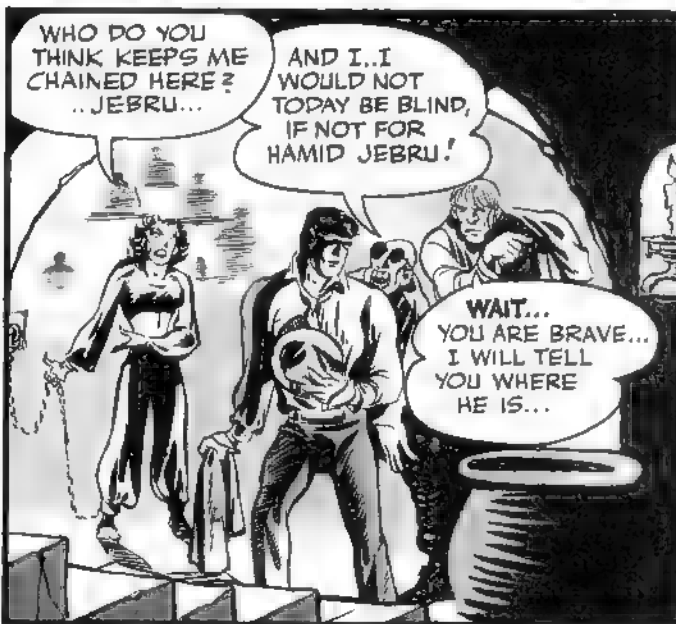
A MAGNET WAS
DROPPED
FROM A DEAD
MAN'S HAND...

AND TO IT
ROLLED TWO
TINY, HELPLESS
SPLINTERS...

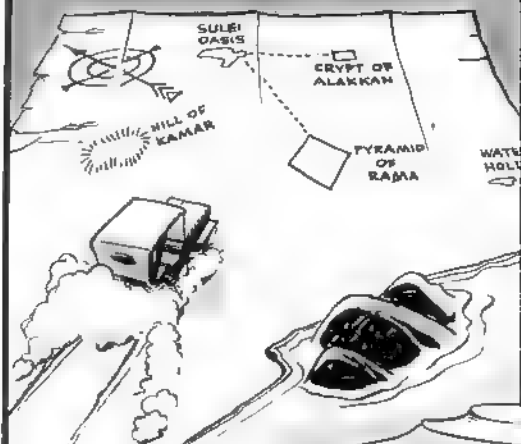
MYSELF... AND HAMID JEBRU...

TWO WEEKS LATER MY SHIP DOCKED IN THE PORT OF
SAHIDE... I DISEMBARKED AMID A SILENCE THAT
SPOKE HIS NAME...

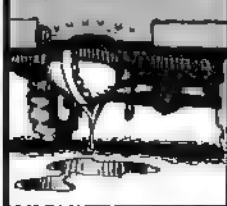
HA
MID
JE
BRU



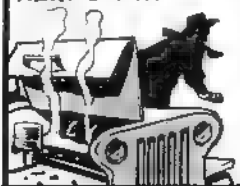
NOW IT WAS SIMPLY A MATTER OF GETTING TO THE CRYPT OF ALAKKAN FIRST. I BOUGHT A JEEP AND SCANNED THE MAP THE BEGGAR HAD GIVEN ME... BY NOON I WAS RACING ACROSS THE HOT SANDS...



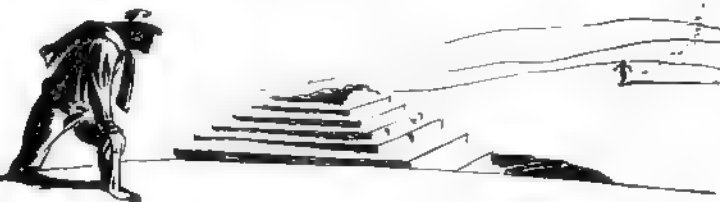
BY NIGHTFALL...



BY DAWN OF THE NEXT DAY...



LATE THAT AFTERNOON I SAW THE CRYPT... AND... A TINY SPECK ABOUT A HALF MILE AWAY, RACING MADLY TOWARD THE RUINS... I KNEW WHO IT WAS...



I RAN... DRAWN TO IT WITH A FORCE THAT MADE MY EARS RING...



TWO TINY SLIVERS OF HUMANITY... ONE FROM THE FAR WEST... THE OTHER FROM THE FAR EAST... PULLED BY AN ANCIENT CRYPT WHOSE MAGNETIC FORCE COULD REACH BEYOND THE SEA... WHY? WHY??

IN A FEW MINUTES...



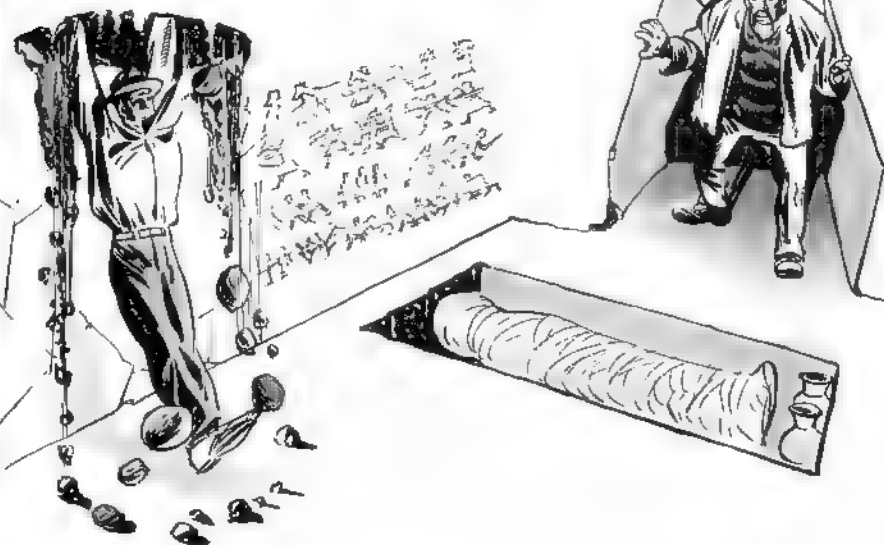
I GOT HERE FIRST...

I WOULD KNOW.

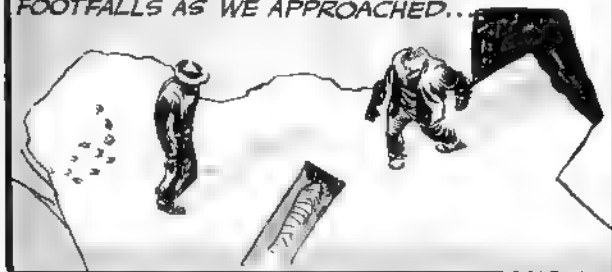


THE VAULT... THE BURIAL VAULT!!

AND AT LONG LAST I FOUND WHAT I HAD BEEN SEEKING... THE CRYPT OF ALAKKAN... AND HAMID JEBRU!



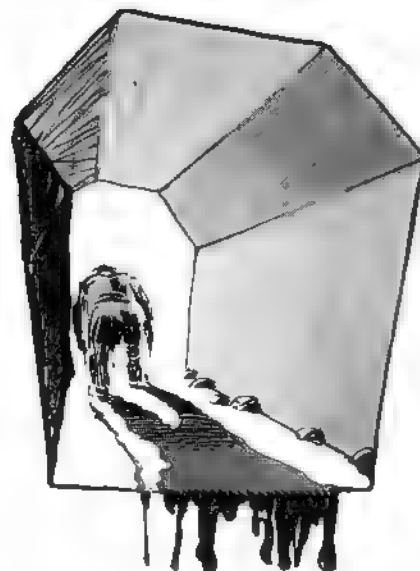
FOR A LONG, LONG MOMENT THERE WAS SILENCE... THEN THE CRYPT RANG WITH OUR FOOTFALLS AS WE APPROACHED...

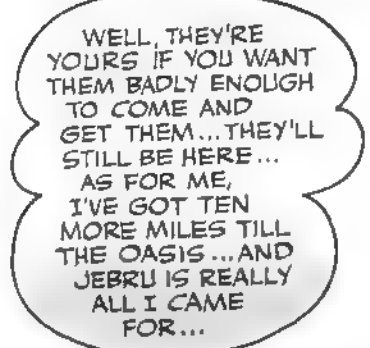
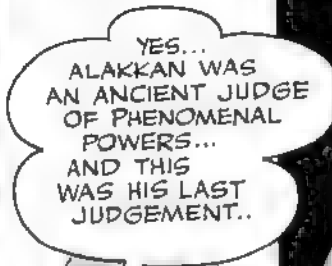


HA HA HA HA
A FORTUNE...
GOLD AND
JEWELS !!



MINE ... ALL MINE...

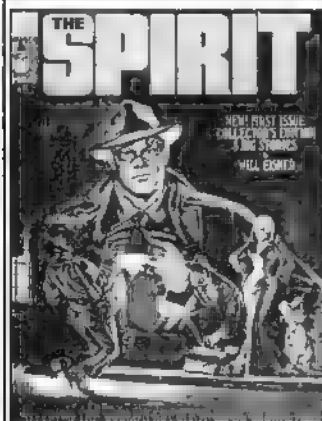




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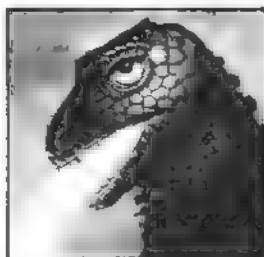


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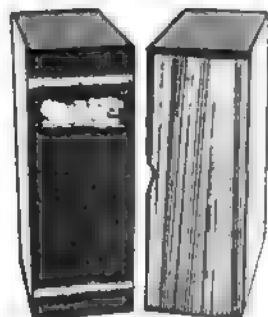


SPIRIT POSTER

FULL COLOR! LARGE 2' x 3'

Here's the perfect addition to any wall! A full color poster of the World's Greatest Super-Hero. Drawn by The Spirit's creator, the great Will Eisner, this vibrant pin-up is a big 2 feet by 3 feet. Poster has a matte finish, is printed on heavy, high quality paper, and is a must for fans! #2949/\$2.00.

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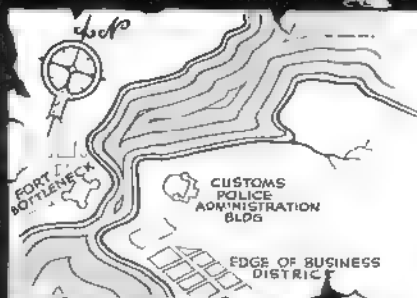
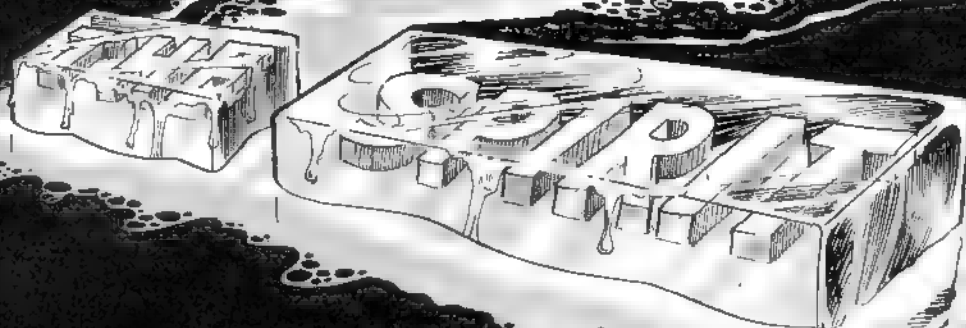
ATTENTION COMIC COLLECTORS!



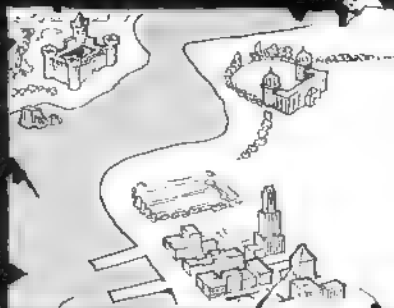
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The biggest and best Program Book from the biggest and best Comic Con. The book captures all the excitement and drama of the Comic Event of the Year! This big 100-page 5 1/2"x8 1/2" book features a full-color cover of Joe Simon's original drawing of **CAPTAIN AMERICA**! Included are great articles and photos: an in-depth interview with Bob Kane and C.C. Beck, creators of **BATMAN** and **CAPTAIN MARVEL**; Will Eisner profile, by artist Murphy Anderson; Joe Simon article, with Simon & Kirby art, Harvey Kurtzman and Little Annie Fanny. No serious Collector of comic art can afford to be caught without this star-studded Collectors' Item! Order your copy while they last! \$3.00 #21158

"ICE"



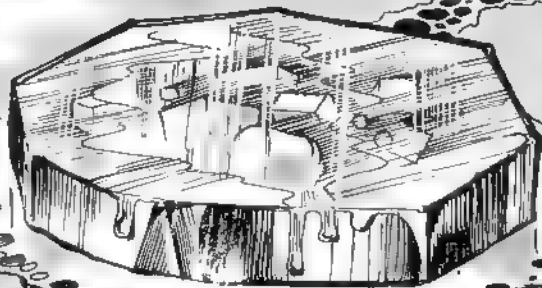
Central City Harbor is one of the largest ports of entry into the United States. So, naturally, this city has one of the largest, most efficient organizations of harbor and customs police...



At 'Fort Bottleneck', at the narrowest point of the bay, these shrewd, hawk-eyed guardians of our commerce examine all incoming sea traffic. No craft, large or small, can enter Central Bay without stating its business.

...in fact, nothing gets by their watchful eyes...

Except, maybe, on cold January days... an ice floe...







NOW LOOK HERE, COPPER...
WE AIN'T BROKE NO LAWS...
WE AIN'T SUBJECT
TO NO SEARCHIN'! WE'RE
OUTTA HARBOR
LIMITS.

FIND
ANYTHING,
SPIRIT?

HMMM
STRANGE...
NO CARGO...
NOTHING!

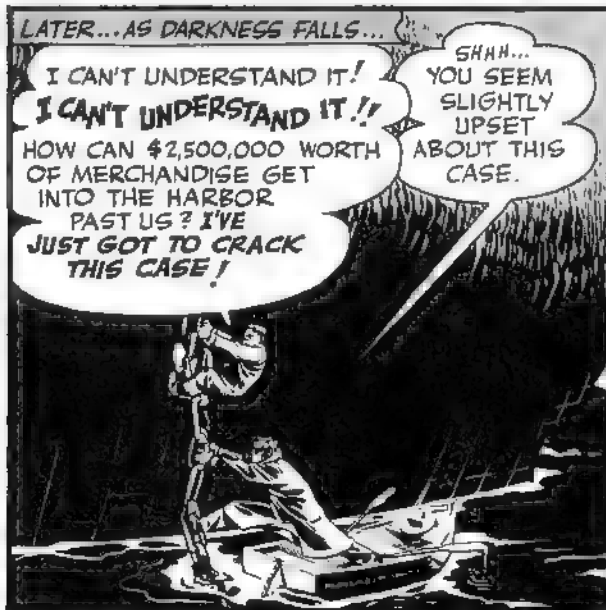


WE'RE
FISHERMEN
DIS IS A
REFRIGERATOR
SHIP...
SEE?!

HMM...I
STILL DON'T
SEE WHY
YOU'RE
HANGING
AROUND THE
HARBOR.



'CAUSE THE SEA AIR IS
GOOD FOR US! NOW
**GET OFF! YOU GOT
NO WARRANT TO
SEARCH US.**



LATER...AS DARKNESS FALLS...

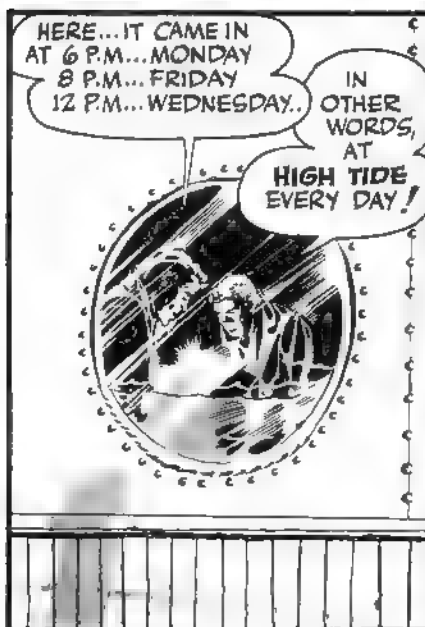
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!!
HOW CAN \$2,500,000 WORTH
OF MERCHANDISE GET
INTO THE HARBOR
PAST US? I'VE
JUST GOT TO CRACK
THIS CASE!

SHHH...
YOU SEEM
SLIGHTLY
UPSET
ABOUT THIS
CASE.



I AM! A LOT DEPENDS
ON MY SUCCESS HERE.
I'M UP FOR PROMOTION,
AND IF I MAKE CAPTAIN...
I'LL BE ABLE TO GET
MARRIED!

WELL, WELL, WELL... THAT
CERTAINLY SOUNDS
WORTHWHILE... HMM... MMM...
GET ME THE TIME CHECK
ON THE APPEARANCE
OF THE 'SEA SPRAY' AT THE
HARBOR ENTRANCE... IT'S
PROBABLY IN THE
LOG...



HERE...IT CAME IN
AT 6 P.M... MONDAY
8 P.M... FRIDAY
12 P.M... WEDNESDAY...

IN
OTHER
WORDS,
AT
**HIGH TIDE
EVERY DAY!**



BUT ALL DEEP
DRAUGHT SHIPS
COME IN AT
HIGH TIDE...
SO WHAT?

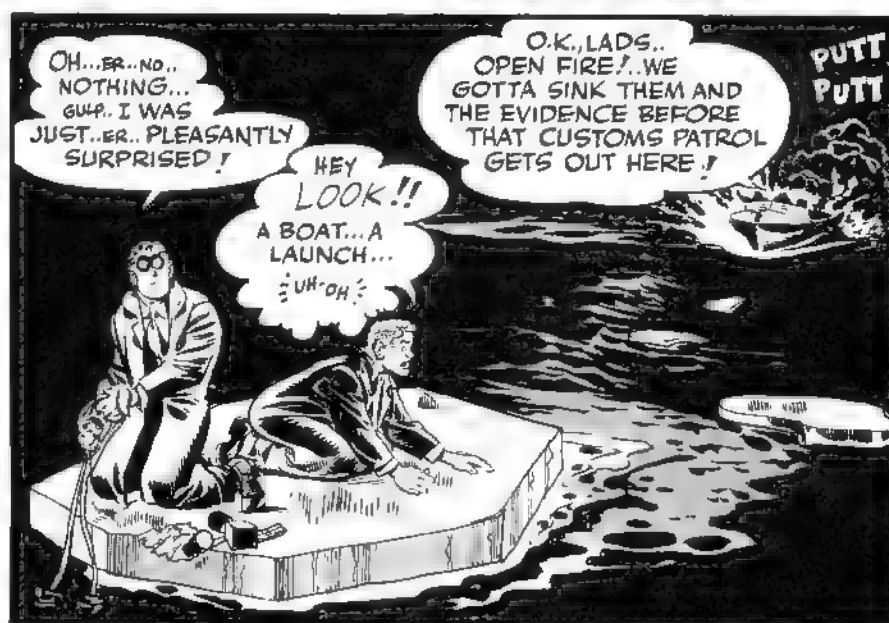
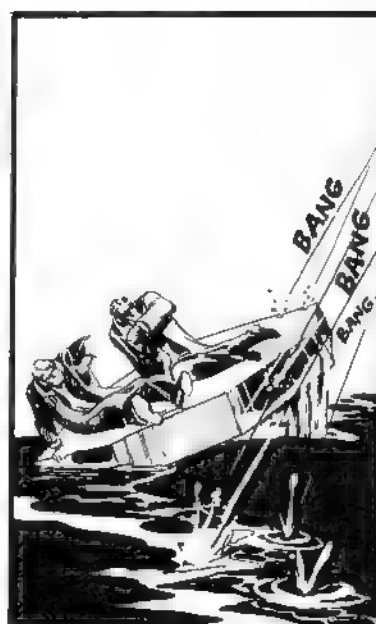
SO... THERE ARE
TIDES IN CENTRAL
RIVER, 5 MILES
PAST THE
CUSTOMS AT
THE MOUTH OF
THE BAY.



**NOW... LOOK AT THIS MAP...
SUPPOSE AN OBJECT WERE
DROPPED IN THE WATER
AT FLOOD TIDE...
THE OBJECT WOULD
FLOAT RIGHT ALONG
WITH THE TIDE...
UNDER THE NOSES OF
THE CUSTOMS MEN**

**WOW
!!**







NEXT DAY...



ELLEN...
YOU CAN'T
MARRY THAT
MAN!

??
WHAT
MAN?



LIEUTENANT
CARSON, THAT'S
WHO! DON'T
PRETEND YOU'RE
SURPRISED! HE
TOLD ME
ALL ABOUT
IT.

OH,
HE
DID!!?
..AND WHY
CAN'T I
MARRY
HIM?



WELL..WELL...
HE'S JUST NOT
YOUR TYPE,
THAT'S ALL.

WHY
NOT?
HE'S A
LIEUTENANT
OF POLICE...
I'M A
POLICEMAN'S
DAUGHTER...
WE'D MAKE
A PERFECT
FAMILY...



WELL..THAT IS...
YOU'RE TOO
YOUNG TO KNOW
YOUR OWN MIND...
BETTER ASK
YOUR FATHER
FIRST...

DON'T BE
SILLY! I'VE BEEN
MAKING MY
OWN
DECISIONS
FOR YEARS...
AND DADDY'S
TOO!



BESIDES, I'M NOT
GETTING ANY YOUNGER,
Y'KNOW... HE'S THE
BEST OFFER I'VE
HAD... WHO ELSE
WOULD THERE
BE?

ME,
BY GOLLY.
ME!!



WAIT...I DIDN'T
MEAN..THAT IS, I...
I...

OH, SPIRIT,
DARLING!!



ELLEN, DEAR...
IT'S ME,
BOB CARSON..



ELLEN...I JUST
GOT MY PROMOTION...
I'M A CAPTAIN!
NOW WILL
YOU GIVE ME YOUR
ANSWER?

BOB...I'M
SORRY, BUT
I'VE ALREADY
PROMISED TO
MARRY THE
SPIRIT...



AND SO
WE COME TO
THE END OF
ANOTHER
ADVENTURE...

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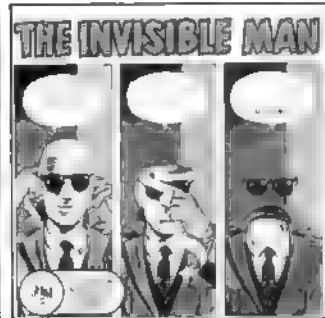
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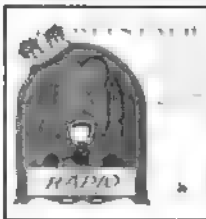


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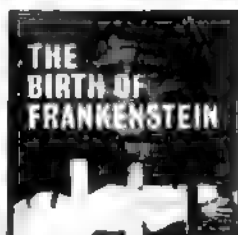
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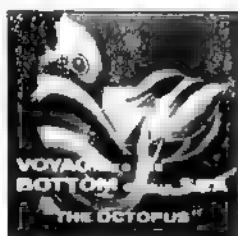
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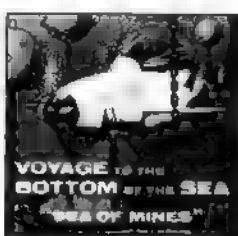
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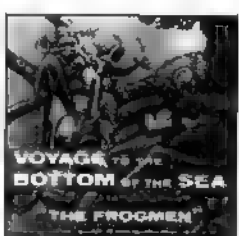
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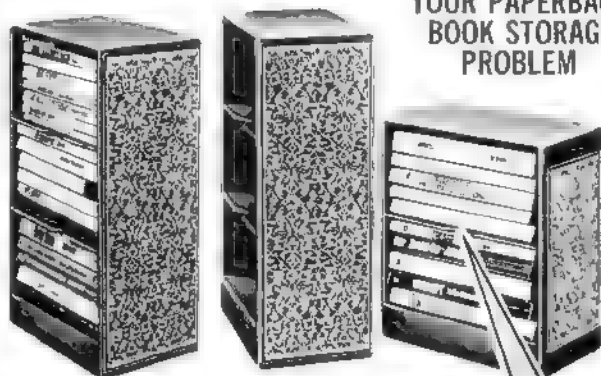
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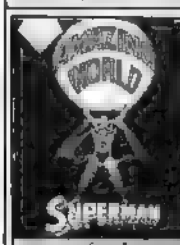
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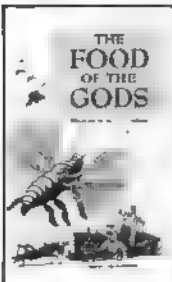
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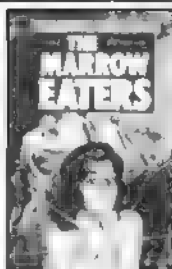
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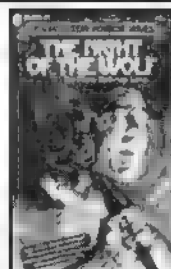


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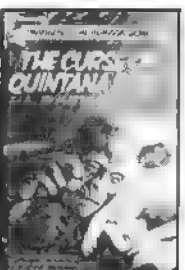
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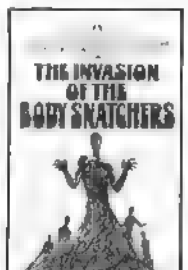
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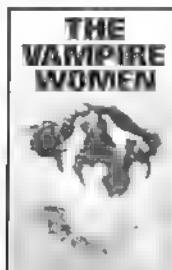
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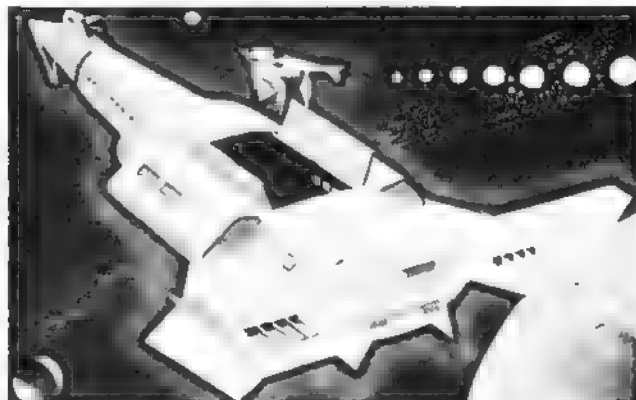
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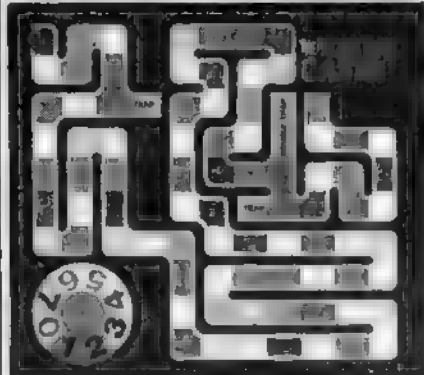
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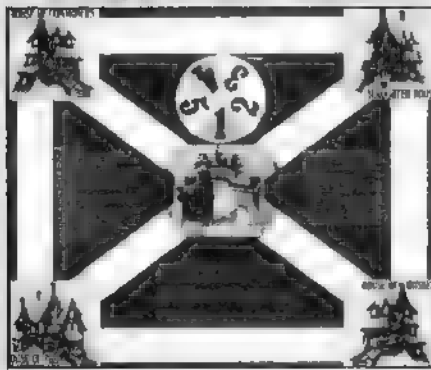
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they move!**



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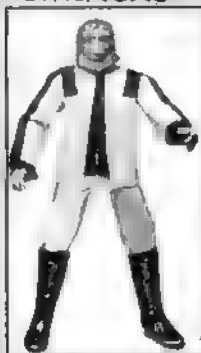
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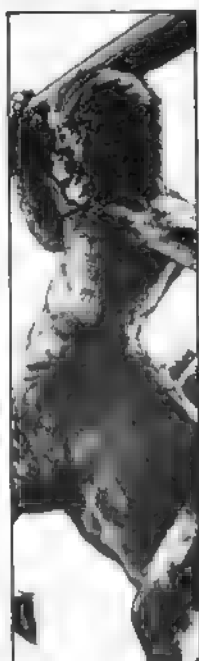
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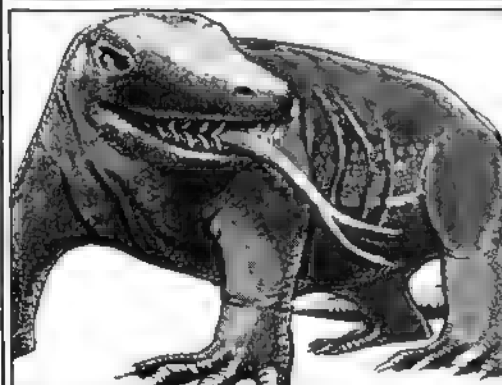
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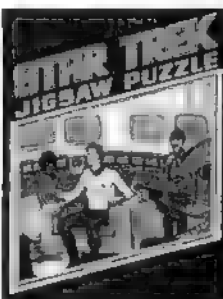
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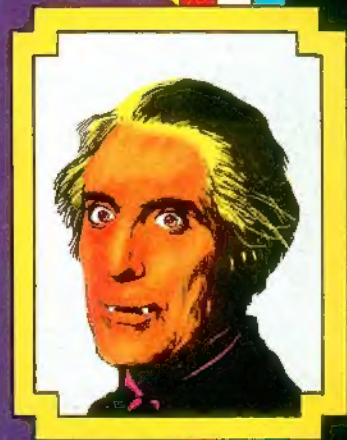
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